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MICHITERU KUSABA

草場道輝

FANTASISTA NUMBER 16

ファンタジスタ

SS comics

最強の敵・西郷との戦いを終え、
坂本徹平は旅立ちを決意する。
感謝と希望と不安を胸に
舞台はカルチョの国へ！
ファンタジスタ・イタリア編
堂々開幕!!

SS comics

ファンタジスタ 16

草場道輝

MICHITERU KUSABA

小学館
SSC-6296

素晴らしきジョカトーレ達

ロナウド
RONALDO

【サッカー選手】

今回のW杯では印象的な4年越しのドラマがありました。
ベッカムのリベンジ、そしてロナウドの復活です。
前回のフランス大会でロナウドはあまりのプレッシャーに体調を崩し、芳しい働きは見られませんでした。怪物と呼ばれた彼がそこまで追いつめられるほどのW杯。それはサッカー選手にとって想像を絶するほど特別なものだと、その時改めて思ったものですが……しかし、彼はその屈辱と大きなケガを乗り越えW杯に戻ってきました。精神的にも強くなって。そしてあれだけのパフォーマンスを見せ、見事ブラジルを優勝に導きました。
人間どん底を見て、そこから這い上がると一回りも二回りも大きくなるものなんですね。
どん底かぁ……なるべくなら見たくねー。

COVER PHOTO-STUDIO AUPA

草場道輝
SHORT STORY
MICHITERU KUSABA

いや～W杯終わりましたねえ。
楽しかったですね～(いつの話だと突っ込まれそうですが)
雑誌は時節のタイムラグがあって、
そう言う話題は書きにくいのですが
単行本になるとそれがまた懐かしいですね。
ともあれ日本代表ベスト16おめでとうございます。
代表イレブン、トルシエ監督それからサポーターの皆さんお疲れさまでした。次はジーコ監督ですね。
トルシエ監督は組織のなかに人を当てはめていったけど、ジーコ監督はまず人ありきですもんね。
どっちかと言うとこっちの方が好きです、
なんか夢があって。だから今回以上に楽しみです。
何がって？　そりゃあ2006年のW杯。
(もう時間感覚めちゃくちゃ。)

COVER DESIGN;ZUNIGA-RYOJI YAMAGUCHI

ファンタジスタ 16 草場道輝

MICHITERU KUSABA

小学館

THE BATTLE WITH HIS GREATEST OPPONENT OVER, TEPPEI MAKES THE DECISION TO SET OFF. WITH APPRECIATION, HOPES AND WORRIES IN HIS HEART, HE IS OFF TO A NEW SCENE; THE COUNTRY OF 'CALCIO'! FANTASISTA – ITALIA EDITION OFFICIALLY BEGINS!!

MICHITERU KUSABA

草場道輝

FANTASISTA NUMBER 16

ファンタジスタ

最強の敵・西郷との戦いを終え、
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Giorni vissuti nel calcio

FANTASISTA

NUMBER 16

フォンタジスタ

FANTASISTA

MICHITERU KUSABA
草場道輝

小学館
SHOGAKUKAN

Synopsis

- of the series up until now -

THE HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL TOURNAMENT, TOKYO REGIONALS IS REACHING ITS FINALE. WINNING THEIR WAY THROUGH, THE MIZUMOTO TEAM MAKE IT TO THE REGIONAL FINAL AGAINST THE POWERHOUSE SCHOOL WITH 7 STRAIGHT REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, RYOUTOU HIGH SCHOOL.

UNDER THE DIRECTOR KOTONE'S STRATEGY OF PLAYING GAMES WITH A REINFORCED MIDFIELD, MIZUMOTO HAS BROUGHT AGGRESSIVE ATTACKS WITH TEPPEI AT THEIR CENTER. BUT, AGAINST AN OPPONENT THAT WILL TAKE ALL OF THEIR STRENGTH TO BEAT, THE MATCH DEVELOPS INTO A VIRTUAL TIE AND THE FIRST HALF WINDS DOWN AT A NIL-NIL DEADLOCK.

HOWEVER, IN THE SECOND HALF, JOUNAN FIGHTS BACK WITH TACTICAL COUNTER-ATTACKS. IN THE FACE OF A MIGHTY DEFENSE, MIZUMOTO'S BOLD ATTEMPTS BRING NO GOALS AND THE IMPASSE CONTINUES.

80 MINUTES INTO THE SECOND HALF, TEPPEI PASSES INSIDE TO THE FRONT OF THE ENEMY'S GOAL! BUT, FORWARD BABA MISSES THE SHOT... A GRIPPING FINAL MATCH -- WHICH WAY IS THIS BATTLE HEADED?!

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5ª THE MEANING OF #10 177

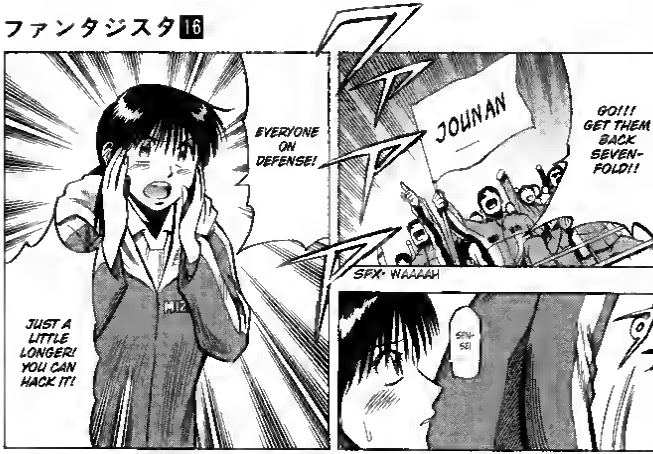
■草場道輝■

9
PHEW
THE FINAL MATCH OF THE TOKYO PRELIMINARIES... NIL-NIL AT 35 MINUTES INTO THE SECOND HALF...
IN THIS 'ONE GOAL WINS ALL MATCH' SITUATION, IBARA OF MIZUMOTO'S SHOT DEFLECTED OFF THE POST!
A TOUCH OF THE FOOT AND IT MIGHT'VE GONE IN ..
AND ONE OF SAKAMOTO'S MILLION-DOLLAR PASSES, NO LESS...
THIS IS ONE OF THOSE TIMES WHEN WE JUST HAVE TO CHALK IT UP TO BAD LUCK!

FOR MIZUMOTO, WHO HAD BEEN ATTACKING CONTINUOUSLY FOR THE FIRST 37 MINUTES OF THE SECOND HALF...
AH AH
ALRIGHT
SFX AAAAAAAH
THAT WAS TOO CLOSE!
SFX WOOOOOAH
ALL THESE THINGS ARE STACKING UP AND BY THE LOOK OF THEIR FACES DEFEAT IS IN THE AIR...
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THE LIMITS OF THEIR ENDURANCE, THE DWINDLING TIME REMAINING, THE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY THAT GOT AWAY...
3
AND, ONE MAN WAS NOT GOING TO LET THIS SLIP BY.

WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT!!

SAK OOOOOOO
WHAT AN IRONIC SPECTACLE THIS IS!!
DOING A COMPLETE ONE-EIGHTY, THEY ARE ON THE REBOUND!!
AFTER DEFENDING STAUNCHLY, THEY ARE FINALLY SHOWING THEIR FANGS!!
!!
12
GO


EVERYONE ON DEFENSE!
JOUNAN
GO!!! GET THEM BACK SEVEN-FOLD!!
SFX: WAAAAH
JUST A LITTLE LONGER! YOU CAN HACK IT!
SFX: SNIFF

THEY WERE ABLE TO RE-ENERGIZE THEMSELVES DURING HALFTIME... PLUS, WE'VE GOT THREE SUBS LEFT...
WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO AIM FOR OVERTIME...

FUKU...
YOU'RE STAYING THERE!!
SFX: SWOOP
CRAP!!
SFX: THUMP
!?

WE WON'T NEED THAT LONG.
MEH MEH. NOW, WE'RE TALKIN'
THREE MINUTES REMAINING!!
INCLUDING OVERTIME, THAT'S ABOUT FIVE MINUTES!
8
SFX SLAM
GGHH!
INSTANT KILL!

WE HAVEN'T LOST YET, GUYS!
EVERY-ONE, STAY COOL!

YEAH!
WE STILL HAVE...
HOPE!!

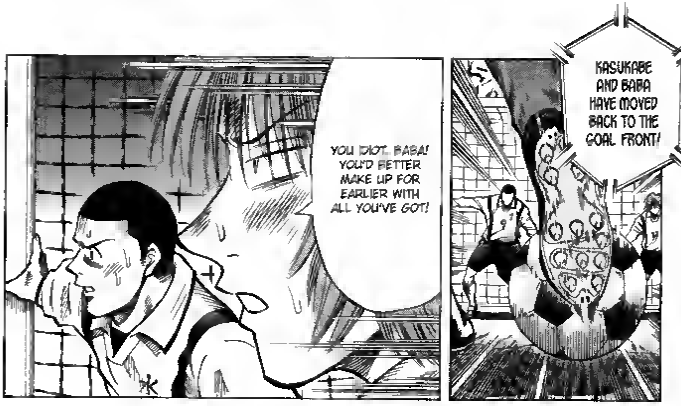
IF WE CAN JUST GET THE BALL TO HIM...
YEAH! HE IS THE ONE...
HUFF
HE'LL MAKE SOME-THING HAPPEN!
HUFF
THE PLAY THAT HE PULLED OFF JUST THEN...
HUFF
WE MISSED THE SHOT BEFORE, BUT...
HUFF

水本
18

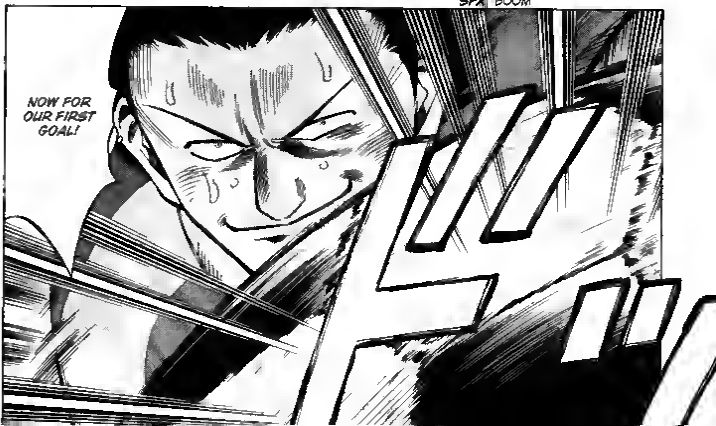
HAHA
GRRR
JOUNAN IS PASSING AROUND THE BALL AS IF TOYING WITH MIZUMOTO'S PLAYERS!
SFX TAP
HAH...

TAKASUGI'S PASS REACHES TAKECHI PERFECTLY!
JOUNAN HAS CREATED A MATCH-DECIDING OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE THE LEAD!
YOU BETTER MAKE THAT!
12
OK!
SFX: WUMP
SFX: BOOM
GET LOST!
!!
I'LL AT LEAST GET YOU A YELLOW
SFX: GRIP

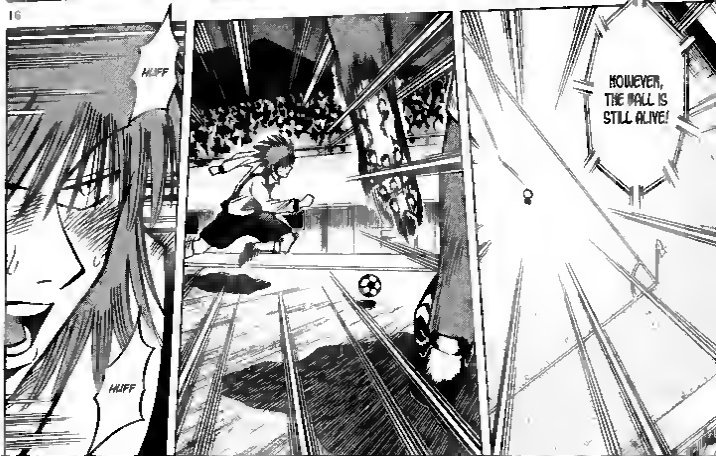
TAKE A HIKE!!
13
SFX. SIFF


KASUKABE AND BABA HAVE MOVED BACK TO THE GOAL FRONT!
YOU IDIOT, BABA! YOU'D BETTER MAKE UP FOR EARLIER WITH ALL YOU'VE GOT!

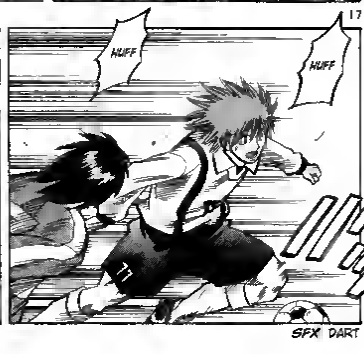
I GOT IT!


SFX: BOOM
NOW FOR OUR FIRST GOAL!

YOU DID IT, BABA!
WE'VE GOT A CHANCE WITH THAT ONE!
SFX: DASH
SFX: BOOM
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
うおお
NICE CLEAR OUT!!
GHH..
SFX: WHOOOOOOOOOO


HUFF
HUFF
HOWEVER, THE BALL IS STILL ALIVE!

SFX: SWOOF SWOOF



SFX: DART

TAKE US TO NATIONALS, TEPPEI!
SFX BOOM
SFX TTTUMBBLE
YUTA!

19

GO AND GET THAT GOAL!
SFX. SWOOSH
COME!!

imangascans.org
imangascans
mangahighway.net

FANTASISTA

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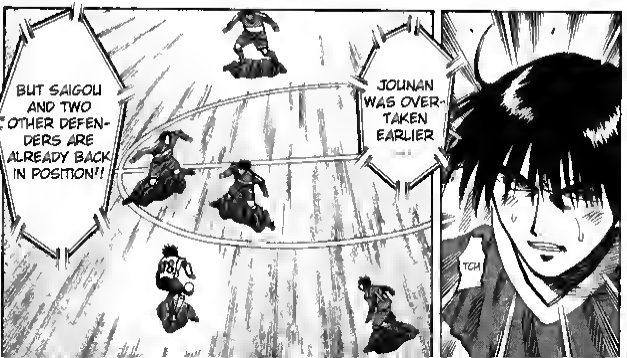
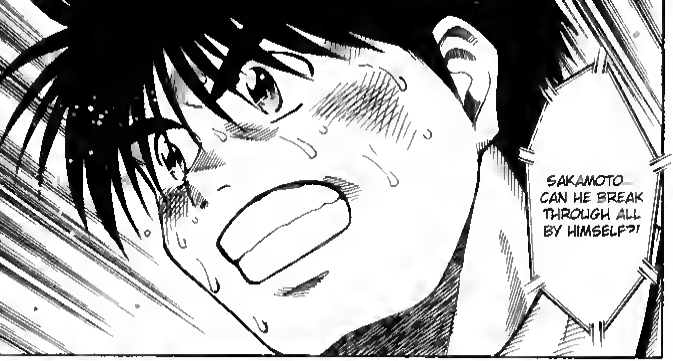
第184節
奇跡の瞬間

Chapter 184 Instant of Miracle

VS
1ST
2ND
TOTAL
45
THERE'S ALMOST NO TIME REMAINING.
AND IT'S STILL 0-0!!

MIZUMOTO'S KUSAKABE CLEARED THE BALL RIGHT TO SAKAMOTO!
YULITA
UGH
JOUNAN BIDED THEIR TIME WAITING FOR MIZUMOTO TO TIRE OFFENSIVELY AND WHEN THEY SWITCHED TO A SUPER COUNTER-ATTACK MODE


BUT SAIGOU AND TWO OTHER DEFENDERS ARE ALREADY BACK IN POSITION!!
JOUNAN WAS OVERTAKEN EARLIER
TCH


SAKAMOTO... CAN HE BREAK THROUGH ALL BY HIMSELF?!

I beg you, Teppei!!
Take us to nationals!!

G-...

...
GO
!!

Teppei!!

I...
like this team...
18
TA-KING US LIGHT-LY..
WHAT CAN YOU DO ALONE ?!

I first tasted the happiness of playing football with friends..
YEAH, WE'LL WIN!!
EVEN COACH SAID IT...
This team is where...
Where I first knew the feeling of not wanting to lose...
7
The feeling of...
working hard with everyone towards a common goal.
and ...

the desire to become ...
hate
hate

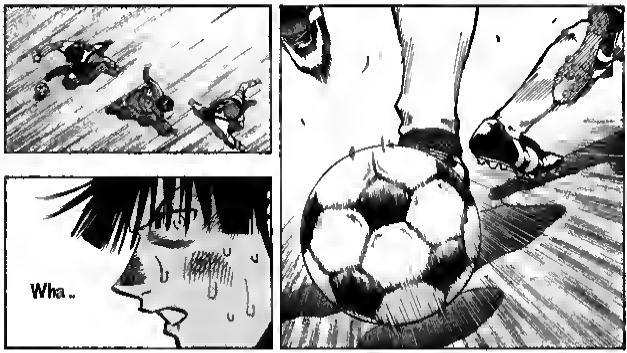
better and better!!
hate
hate

All because I could meet you all!!!
HE PASSED TWO!! TAKASUGI RETURNS WITH FULL SPEED..!!
That's right Takasugi!! Until we get to nationals..
we can't lose here!!
Wheeze
!
You all fell for Saigou's plan...
SAKAMOTO'S KNEE GAVE UP!!
to tire you guys offensively!!
Wheeze

!
wheeze
wheeze
Go to hell!!!
Teppei!!
haff
haff

Kyou-chan!!

A switch !!
13
18
18
13
18
18


Wha..

ONLY SAIGOU AND THE KEEPER REMAIN !!
JONAN
THEY GOT PAST TAKA-SUGI!!!
No way!!
AND ...

What did you do Sakamoto-?!!
There's no way Takasugi could be passed that easily!!
I have Mizumoto and everyone following me!!
that's all!!!
You can't fool me!!
13

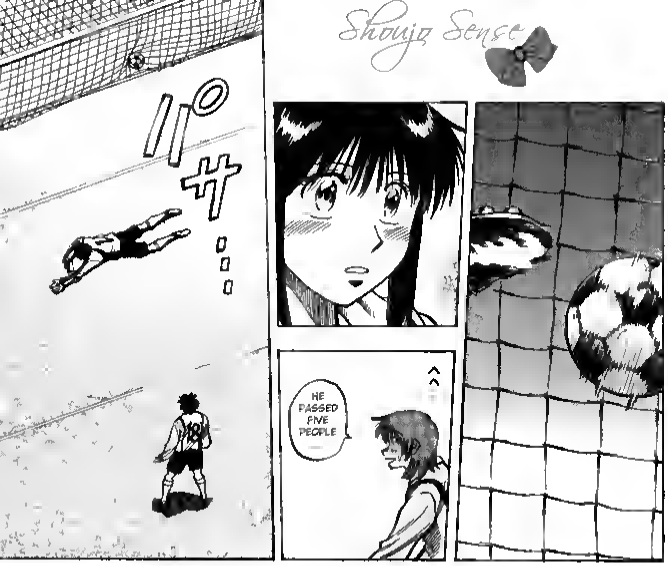
Shoujo Sense

At that time, Saigou could clearly see Baba's appearance.
!?
Teppei's extreme vision and motion...
SAIGOU !!
and above all, his trust in his comrades and his tenacity to win ...
18
18

9
12

caught Saigou in an illusion!!

4
10


HE PASSED FIVE PEOPLE

19
10

And on that day.. Teppei created a legend.
18

Giornalino sul calcio
FANTASISTA
CHAPTER 134
PLEASE SUPPORT THE AUTHOR BY BUYING THE MANGA WHEN/IF IT'S AVAILABLE IN YOUR REGION.
TRANSLATOR: HEMONY
PROOFREADER: GEORGI
EDITOR: HEMONY
QCER: HEMONY
NUMBER 16
ファンタジスタ
FANTASISTA
MICHITERU KUSABA
草場道輝
Sunday Comics
小学館
SHOGAKUKAN

IMPREGNABLE JOUNAN'S WALL...
TOKYO METROPOLITAN AREA CHAMPIONSHIPS PRELIMINARIES FINALS JUST BEFORE THE END OF MATCH THE BALANCE WAS DISRUPTED!!
AS I THOUGHT, THIS MAN BROKE THROUGH IT!!
18
第135節 CHAPTER 135 IT'S OUR TURN
オレ達の番だ
NICE GOING, SUZUMOTO!!
SAKAMOTO!!

YES, WE CAN DO IT!! WE'LL GO TO NATIONALS!!

第135節
CHAPTER 135 IT'S OUR TURN
オレ達の番だ
VS 水本
1ST
2ND
TOTAL
水本
12
13
8

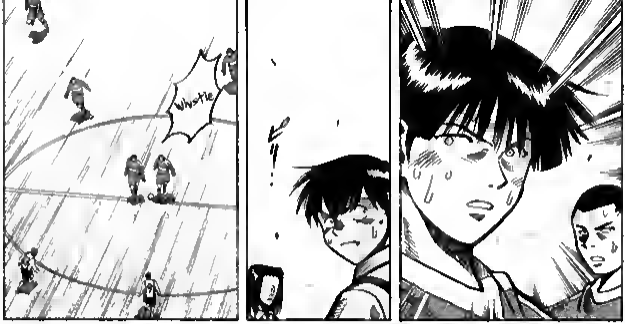
バッ
4
ハ!!
SAIGO
AND THE LOST TIME IS 3 MINUTES!!
3

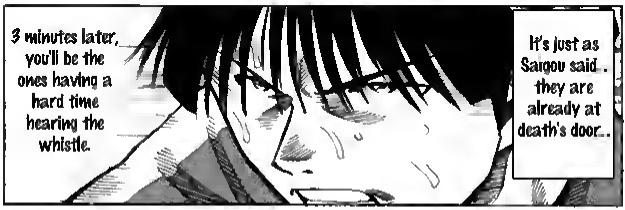
コ!!!
!
JONAN
ナ!!

WE DON'T HAVE TO FEEL DOWN!! IT'S POSSI-BLE TO TURN THE SCORE AROUND IN 3 MINUTES!!
!!

FOR US, NISHIGAOKA ISN'T THE LAST!!

OUR LAST GAME IS NATIONAL FINALS' GROUND, ISN'T IT...?!!


Whistle

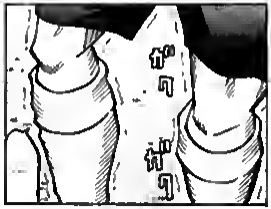

3 minutes later, you'll be the ones having a hard time hearing the whistle.
It's just as Saigou said.. they are already at death's door..

5

KUH
TEPPEI RESPONDED TO OUR WISHES!!
GUYS, SHOW YOUR GUTS!!
Sakamoto... can't have a second miracle!!

OUR TURN IS NEXT!!

SHIT-HEAD !!


ガクガク

...!!

18

huff
Guys...
huff
huff
Huh?
tweet
tweet

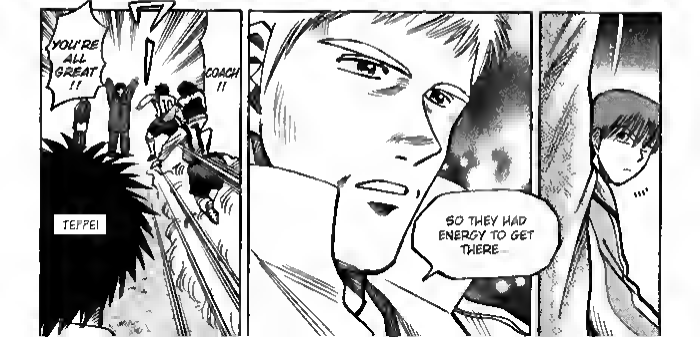
hah?
hah?
hah?
JONAN
EH?
EH?

SEN-SEI
TEPPEI !!
おお
おお
ドド
永本
勝
18

WE WON!!
IT'S GONNA BE NATIONALS !!

FROM INTERHIGH, MIZUMOTO IS GRADUALLY DISTINGUISHING ITSEF, THEY FINALLY DEFEATED FAMOUS TOKYO 8 REPRESENTATIVES ON NATIONAL STAGE!!
WINNER IS TORITSU MIZUMOTO HIGH!!

You did it, Teechan, Kotone-nee-san!!
They beat us like it was normal.
Strong ...
You got us to nationals. That's great Sakamoto!!


YOU'RE ALL GREAT !!
COACH !!
TEPPEI
SO THEY HAD ENERGY TO GET THERE...
!!!!

Kyaaa
LIFT

..Sai-gou..

13

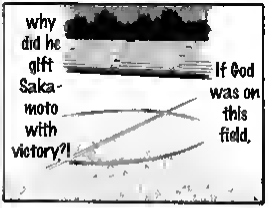
What's the difference between the two of us?!!

..Why did we lose?!

SAI-GOU..

I AL-
READY
...
HAVE NO
INTENTION
TO LOSE...
EVEN AGAINST
WORLD OPPO-
NENTS!!

At least there were a lot of elements in your victory..


why did he gift Saka-moto with victory?!
If God was on this field.

WITH THIS, I RETURNED FAVOR FROM BEFORE

Shouju Sense

WHY ARE YOU APOLO-GIZING?
IT WAS A GOOD MATCH

GUYS, I'M SORRY
SAIGOU

THE MEETING WILL START SOON
WHAT WERE YOU LOOKING AT KON-DOU?

西が丘

GOOD WORK, EVERY-ONE! YOU DID WELL!
TOMORROW AND THE DAY AFTER, GIVE YOUR BODIES PROPER REST
TURN TOWARDS OUR NEW TARGET BECAUSE WE'LL START TO PRACTICE!!
NATIO-NAL TOURNA-MENT HUH...?
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

BUT STILL, TEPPEI PASSING FIVE PEOPLE WAS AMAZING
FROM GETTING THE BALL AND THEN THE GOAL
BASICALLY PASSING AT THE SHOR-TEST DIS-TANCE...

17

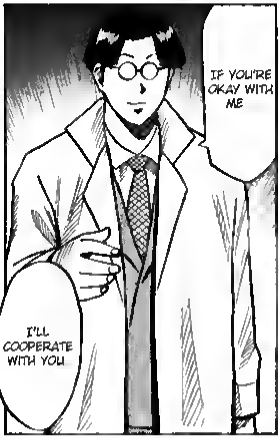
NO. THAT WAS THANKS TO EVERYONE
?

YOU'RE A PERSISTENT ONE TOO
FUJII-SAN
WELL
CONGRATULATIONS ON WINNING
DID... YOU WATCH SAMPLE VIDEO?
HEY HEY... ISN'T IT BAD TO LISTEN IN TO A CONVERSATION?

I WANT TO BECOME EVEN BETTER!!
MIZUMOTO

YEAH

I WANT TO FIGHT AN AMAZING GUY LIKE I DID TODAY TOO!!
HE'S GROWING FAST...


IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH ME
I'LL COOPERATE WITH YOU

19

THAT'S RIGHT

NEE-CHAN
I DECIDED
ARE YOU WATCHING THAT VIDEO AGAIN?
YEAH
...
DE-CIDED WHAT ...?

PERMIT THAT!!
I WON'T ...

Giorni sull'erba del calcio
FANTASISTA
CHAPTER 135
PLEASE SUPPORT THE AUTHOR BY BUYING THE MANGA WHEN/IF IT'S AVAILABLE IN YOUR REGION.
TRANSLATOR: HEMONY
PROOFREADER: TINYSODER
CLEANER: BOBBYJR
TYPESETTER: HEMONY
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SHOGAKUKAN

CHAPTER 136 KOTONE AND TEPPEI

CHAPTER 136
KOTONE AND TEPPEI

HEY, IT'S ABOUT TIME TO START PRACTICE
YES!
DON'T TELL ME... SHE'S PLANNING NOT TO COME TILL THE TOURNAMENT
WHAT'S WITH KOTONE-CHAN, SHE WON'T BE COMING TODAY EITHER?
Thought: Teppei came

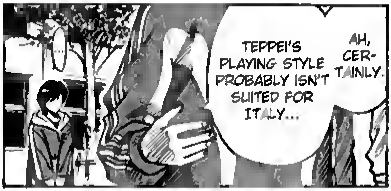
WE, JOUNAN-SEN, KNOW IT...
RATHER THAN BEING WITH US, HE SHOULD JUST GO OVER-SEAS TO REACH HIGHER
職員更衣室
WHATEVER SHE SAYS, COACH IS THE ONE WHO DOESN'T WANT TO HOLD TEPPEI DOWN THE MOST

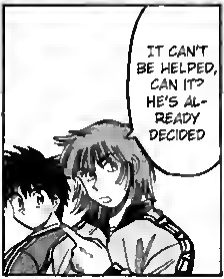
SFX SQUEEZE

3

IF IT'S YOU, IT SHOULD BE SPAIN OR IRELAND, RIGHT?

BUT STILL, IS THAT ALL RIGHT? GOING TO ITALY...

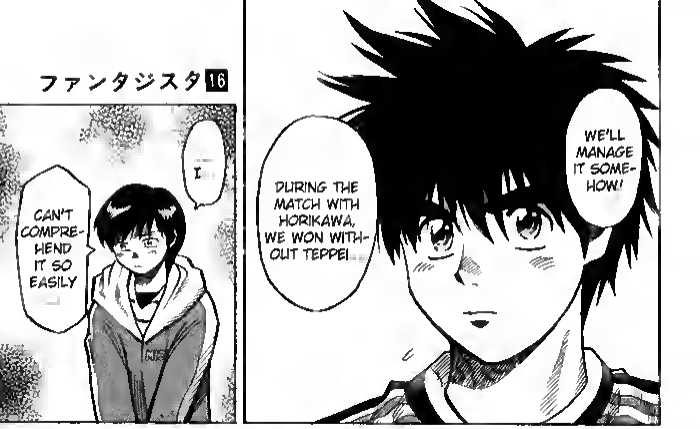

TEPPEI'S PLAYING STYLE PROBABLY ISN'T SUITED FOR ITALY...
AH, CERTAINLY.

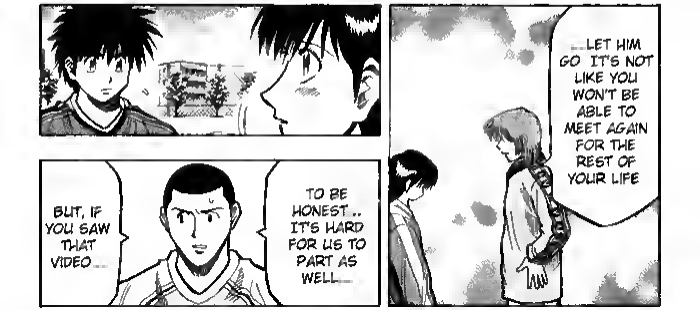

IT CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT? HE'S ALREADY DECIDED

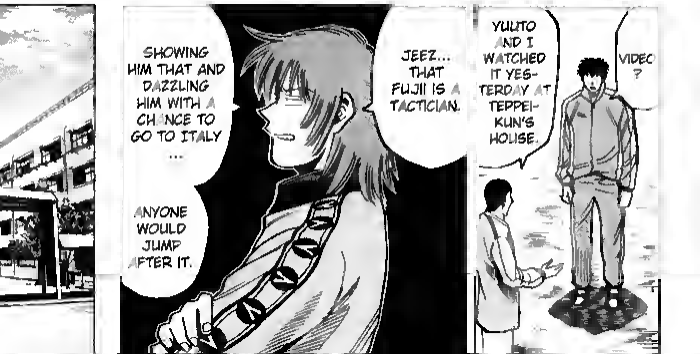
WHY ARE YOU ALL SO FINE WITH IT?

4

IF TEPPEI-KUN WON'T BE HERE ...
WHAT ABOUT CHAMPION-SHIP?!
BUT


I...
CAN'T COMPREHEND IT SO EASILY...
DURING THE MATCH WITH HORIKAWA, WE WON WITHOUT TEPPEI...
WE'LL MANAGE IT SOMEHOW!


...LET HIM GO. IT'S NOT LIKE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO MEET AGAIN FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE
TO BE HONEST.. IT'S HARD FOR US TO PART AS WELL...
BUT, IF YOU SAW THAT VIDEO...


VIDEO?
YUUTO AND I WATCHED IT YESTERDAY AT TEPPEI-KUN'S HOUSE.
JEEZ... THAT FUJII IS A TACTICIAN.
SHOWING HIM THAT AND DAZZLING HIM WITH A CHANCE TO GO TO ITALY...
ANYONE WOULD JUMP AFTER IT.

HE'S DECI-DED...

SFX STRETCHING

FOR-GIVE THAT!!
I WON'T...

HE'S TILL THE END OF THE TAPE...

HE'S NOT LEADING THE WORLD...
BUT STILL...

THAT MARCO IS SO BEATEN UP...

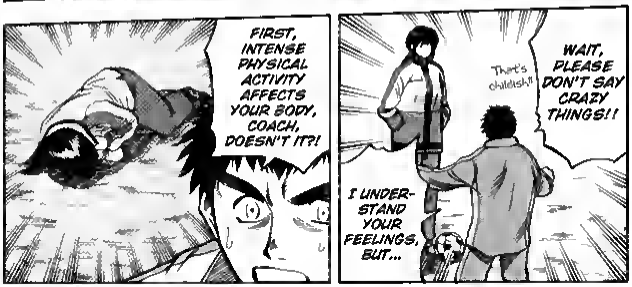
HE DECIDED IT WITH THAT AMAZING SHOOT!!

IF I GO THERE TOO...
I'LL BECOME BETTER !!

SFX HAHAHA
DON'T SAY THAT YOURSELF
I TOO BECAME A LOT BETTER SINCE I PLAYED WITH TEPPEI, I THINK
SO I UNDERSTAND HIS FEELINGS

NEE-CHAN...?!
COACH KOTONE !!
SFX: NOISE
?!
TEPPEI... HAVE A MATCH WITH ME!!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...?

IF I WIN...
YOU'LL STAY HERE!


FIRST, INTENSE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AFFECTS YOUR BODY, COACH, DOESN'T IT?!
I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS, BUT...
That's childish!
WAIT, PLEASE DON'T SAY CRAZY THINGS!!

YEAH.
I'M SERIOUS.
TEPPEI!!
ONE ON ONE WITH NEE-CHAN...?
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN

SFX: TAP TAP
SFX: SWOOSH ZK

TEPPEI SHOULD BE GOOD
WHEN I TAKE A LOOK AT IT AGAIN WE REALLY LEARN SOCCER FROM A GREAT PERSON
A-AMA-ZING
TEPPEI IS BEING PUSHED

IT'S STILL TOO EARLY FOR YOU... TO GO OVERSEAS
HEY, LOOK!! YOU DIDN'T CHANGE EVEN A BIT SINCE THEN!!
SFX SUDDENLY
CATCHES
SFX SPLASH
HAHAHA RECKLESSLY THRUSTING WON'T DO ANYTHING
DAMN

LIKE THIS, USE YOUR ARMS
YOU NEED TO READ THE MOVEMENTS OF YOUR OPPONENT MORE

!!
SFX HIT

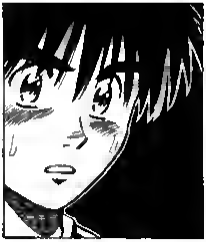
SFX SWOOSH

Because I...
raised you!!

MIZUKOTO

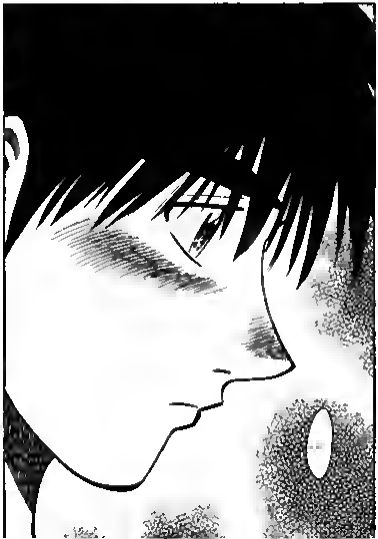
SFX SLUMP
NEE-CHAN !!
C-COACH ?!
SINCE YOU CAME HERE
IT'S BEEN ONLY A YEAR.
Huff
Huff
Huff
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT ?!
NEE-CHAN !!
SFX CLENCH
WHY ARE YOU LEAVING...
THIS SOON?!!
SFX DRIP 2X

YOU SAID... YOU'D MAKE ME THE BEST COACH IN JAPAN, DIDN'T YOU?!



15

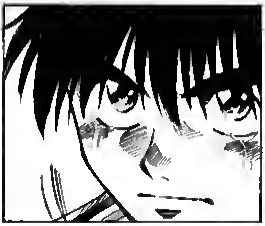
..cross mark..
ME TOO .. I WANT TO BE WITH NEE-CHAN AND THE TEAM

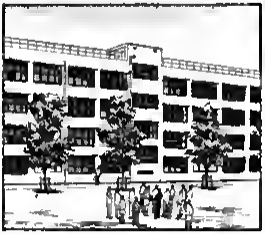


JEEZ... I HATE SUCH ANNOYING TALKS...
What should I do with these feelings?!!
16
RIGHT, DON'T CRY, TEPPEI
DON'T WORRY, KOTONE-CHAN!!
"I'LL MAKE YOU THE BEST COACH IN JAPAN..."

THIS PROMISE
WE'LL TAKE OVER IT!!
MIZUMO

17

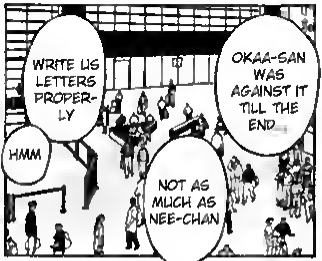




SO DON'T LOSE!!
TO MARCO AND THE OTHER GUYS ALL OVER THE WORLD!!

TOKYO INTER-NATIONAL AIRPORT

I'LL WRITE TOO


WRITE US LETTERS PROPER-LY
OKAA-SAN WAS AGAINST IT TILL THE END
HMM
NOT AS MUCH AS NEE-CHAN

SEND US AN AUTO-GRAPH FROM SHEVCHEN-KO
WORK HARD
STAY HEAL-THY.

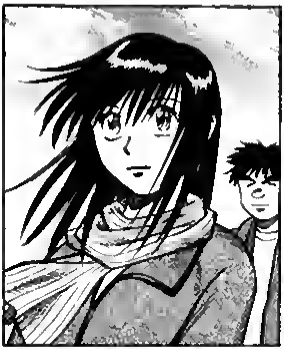
ATTEN-TION EVERY-ONE
THE FLIGHT TO ROME VIA ZURICH WILL TAKE OFF SHORTLY

18

I'LL GO LATER TOO

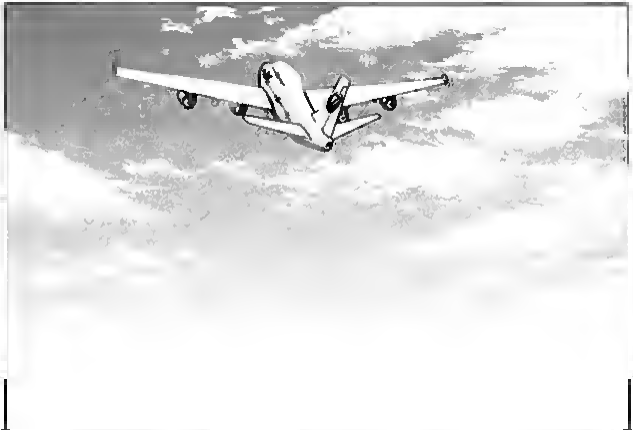
SO I'M GOING

SFX HUG
す…
TEPPEI
NEE-CHAN
19
SPREAD YOUR WINGS
FOR MY SAKE TOO



THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING UNTIL TODAY

the things that Nee-chan taught me!!
I'll definitely won't forget...



巻の途中で日本編が終了しましたので間を区切るために何か日本編についてのコメントを書けと、担当編集様からのご命令が・・・緊張感が途切れそうでホントはあまり振り返りたくないのですが（笑）。

さておかげさまでこの巻で16巻目になります。本当にありがとうございます。

では今までのことを軽く振り返ってみますと、まず1巻から4,5巻くらいまではとにかく何が何やらわからなく締切りの重圧、何をやっても自信がもてず脂汗タラタラ流しっぱなしでした。

その後何とか立て直すことが出来たのは読者の方々の励ましと担当さんの後押しはもちろんのこと、あとほんのちょっとの開き直りだったでしょうか（笑）。

自分なりに今まで一番よくできたなと思う回は第95節の「降臨」という回です。まさに漫画の神様が降りてきてくれたようでした。

この神様はたまに降りてきてくれますが、毎回降りてきて下さればどんなに楽でしょう。

えー、話が少しそれてしまいました。

この連載が始まるときにたまたまサンデー祭りという催し物があって、その時に尊敬する藤田・河合両先生に言われたことを思い出します。

「連載という列車に乗り込んで、それがもう動き出したんだ。」それが長旅になるか短い旅になるかはわかりませんが。

これから始まるイタリア編　終着駅目指して頑張っていきますのでこれからも宜しくお付き合い下さいませ。　※11巻収録

それでは。

MICHITERU KUSABA
草場道輝

Giorni di gloria sui campi del calcio
FANTASISTA
CHAPTER 136
PLEASE SUPPORT THE AUTHOR BY BUYING THE MANGA WHEN/IF IT'S AVAILABLE IN YOUR REGION.
TRANSLATOR: HEMONY
PROOFREADER: YUU
CLEANER: BOBBYJR
TYPESETTER: HEMONY
QCER: HEMONY
NUMBER 16
ファンタジスタ
FANTASISTA
MICHITERU KUSABA
草場道輝
Sonic
小学館
SHOGAKUKAN

始動

イタリア編

Giorni vissuti nel calcio

FANTASISTA

フォンダンスタ

IA PRIMAVERA

Dear Kotone,
Winter is starting in Milano
It's hard to believe it's already been one year since I left Japan
How is everyone doing? As you might expect, I've been giving my all to football here.

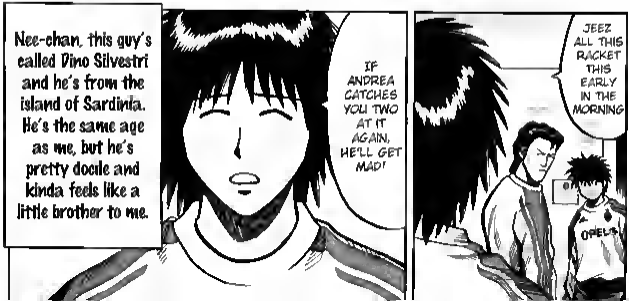
1ª RIMAVERA
プリマヴェーラ

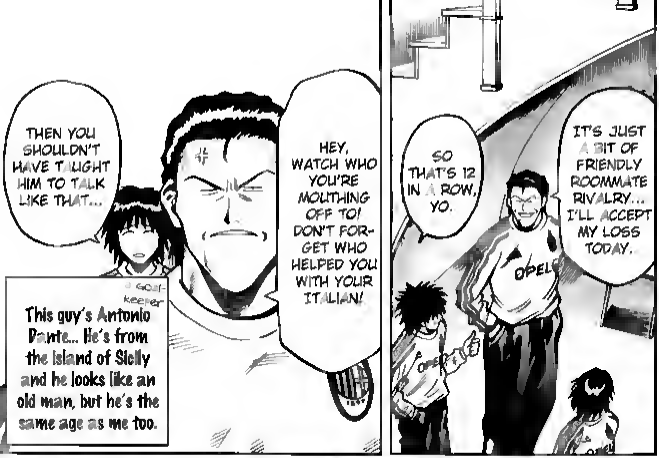
10 of us are living in the dorms, and I've gotta say, the lifestyle's pretty intense...
There are 22 people enrolled here in A.C. Milan Primavera*.
Centro Sportivo Milanello

* NOTE: A WORD THAT MEANS 'SPRING' IN THE ITALIAN LANGUAGE. IT IS A PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL CLUB SIMILAR TO THE JAPANESE J-LEAGUE'S YOUTH TEAMS

SFX: DASH
SFX: DASH
CIAO, DINO!
TEP-PE!!
REFETTORIO
(CAFETERIA)

TSK!
!!
SFX BAM
HEHE..!
I WIN AGAIN, ANTONIO!
THAT'S ONE CROISSANT FOR ME


Nee-chan, this guy's called Pino Silvestri and he's from the island of Sardinia. He's the same age as me, but he's pretty docile and kinda feels like a little brother to me.
IF ANDREA CATCHES YOU TWO AT IT AGAIN, HE'LL GET MAD!
JEEZ ALL THIS RACKET THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING
OPEL-4


THEN YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TAUGHT HIM TO TALK LIKE THAT...
HEY, WATCH WHO YOU'RE MOUTHING OFF TO! DON'T FORGET WHO HELPED YOU WITH YOUR ITALIAN!
Goal-keeper
This guy's Antonio Ponte... He's from the island of Sicily and he looks like an old man, but he's the same age as me too.
SO THAT'S 12 IN A ROW, YO.
IT'S JUST A BIT OF FRIENDLY ROOMMATE RIVALRY... I'LL ACCEPT MY LOSS TODAY.
OPEL

OH, ANDREA
These two are my roommates We get along pretty well, and we're all islanders...
GAHAHA! NO WAY, MAN!
OPEL

7

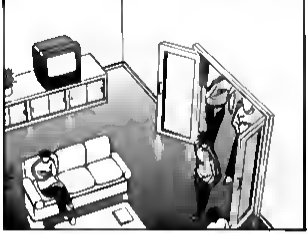
WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE LOOKING AT ANDREA?

Andrea Falconi... despite having met him at the Japan Youth Cup, we don't really talk much.

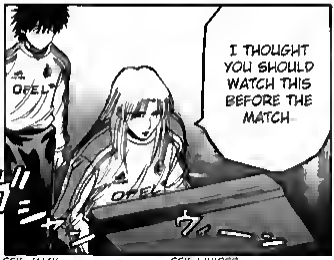
8

If we can stand out, we go up to the first team, and if we can't, then we stay stuck in Primavera forever.

For those of us in Primavera, these kinds of chances come around every now and then..



Andrea was the captain of the Italy Youth team, and even he goes back and forth between the first team and Primavera, the second team.
SAKAMOTO, LET'S SHOW THEM
?
AFTER BREAKFAST, COME MEET ME IN THE LOUNGE



SFX CLICK SFX WHIRRR

THE ITALIAN SUPERNOVA, MARCO FORRE!!
WAITING IN THE FRONT-LINES HE RECEIVES A PASS!
BUT A DEFENDER CLOSES IN!!
I'VE SEEN THIS TOO
THIS IS WHERE IT GETS AMAZ-ING
SFX CHEER

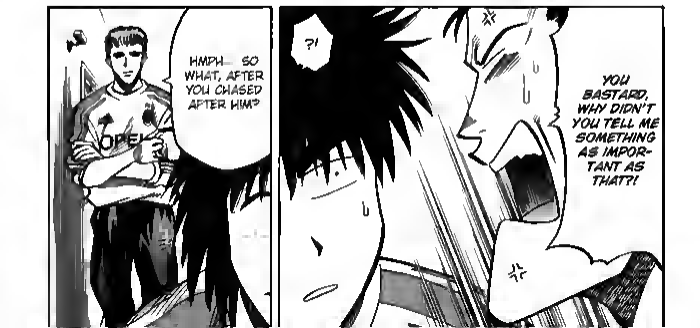
?!
35
SFX: TUMP
WITH HIS BACK TO THE GOALPOST, HE MAKES A DIRECT LOOP SHOOT!!
THE BALL FLIES OVER THE DEFENDER AND GOAL-KEEPER'S HEADS, AND HEADS STRAIGHT FOR THE GOAL!!

SFX: CHEER
AH...!
AH!! WHAT A SHAME THE BALL LANDED ON THE NET!!
ガス
BUT HE'S CERTAINLY SHOWED US WHY HE'S HAILED AS ITALY'S FANTASISTA, EVEN AT THE TENDER AGE OF 17!!
NOW, NOW, DON'T BE LIKE THAT ...
UM... THAT'S OK... THIS IS EMBARRASSING ...
I'M HERE FOR THE POST-GAME INTERVIEW.
HE'S REALLY AMAZING HUH—
AGREED ...

ARE YOU WATCHING?!
HEYO!! TEPPEI!!!!

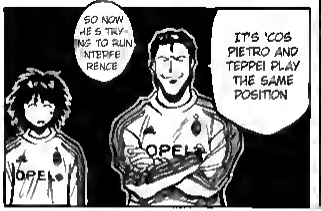
WHY DOES HE KNOW HIM?
I HEARD YOU CAME TO ITALY?
COME TO PALMA, I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND AND TAKE YOU TO SOME AWESOME RISTORANTE!
WHA?!
?!
スカッ
SFX SKID

IN LAST YEAR'S JAPAN YOUTH CUP MARCO AND I PLAYED AGAINST SAKAMOTO
AND TEPPEI
HOW COME I'VE NEVER HEARD THIS?
SAKAMOTO CAME ALL THE WAY HERE TO ITALY TO CHASE AFTER MARCO
HURRY UP AND LET'S PLAY A GAME!!

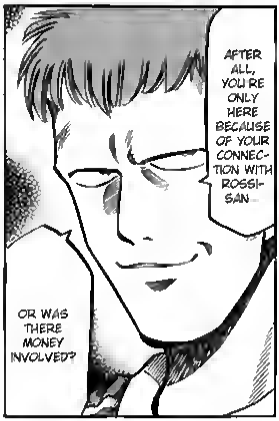

HMPH... SO WHAT, AFTER YOU CHASED AFTER HIM?
?!
YOU BASTARD, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME SOMETHING AS IMPORTANT AS THAT?!

This guy's Pietro Vaitari. He's always trying to get a rise out of me.
THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE!

HEHEHE DON'T TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY PLAN ON BEATING MARCO?
Nee-chan, I guess it's true that no matter where you go, there's always someone that rubs against you the wrong way...
OPEL
BIRD WACTB


SO NOW HE'S TRYING TO RUIN MY EXPERIENCE
IT'S 'COS PIETRO AND TEPPEI PLAY THE SAME POSITION
OPEL
OPEL

14


AFTER ALL, YOU'RE ONLY HERE BECAUSE OF YOUR CONNECTION WITH ROSSI-SAN...
OR WAS THERE MONEY INVOLVED?

MARCO'S THE KIND OF GENIUS THAT POPS UP ONLY ONCE EVERY 20, 30 YEARS.
IF YOU'RE HERE WITH SUCH A STUPID DREAM, THEN JUST GO BACK HOME
OPEL

If you weren't here, today would've been my chance to go up...
PIETRO STOP TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT!
THIS ISN'T A PLACE FOR THOSE WITHOUT ANY SKILL

I'LL SHOW YOU MY SKILL THEN

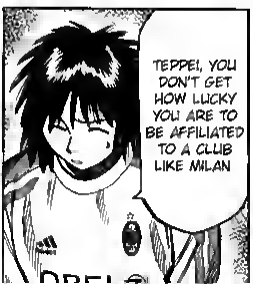
LET'S MAKE THAT A BET.
SO... YOU'RE SAYING YOU'LL SCORE A POINT IN TODAY'S GAME?
OKAY THEN

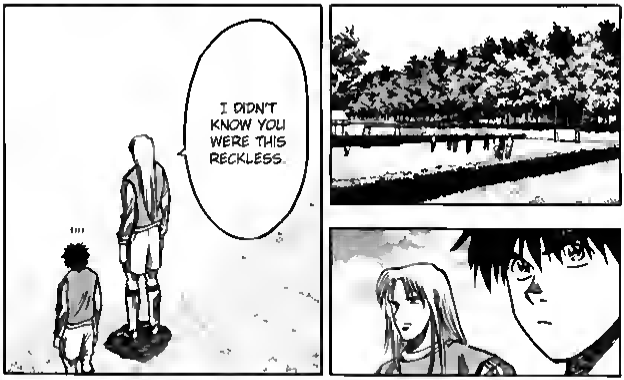
THEN IF YOU DON'T SCORE A GOAL TODAY, YOU'LL HAVE TO LEAVE!!

HE'S RIGHT. IF YOU LOSE HERE, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF IT JUST BY EXCESSIVELY BOWING. THIS ISN'T JAPAN!
YOU'RE BEING TOO RASH ABOUT THIS, TEPPEI!!

FINE WITH ME

I'LL GET IT FROM NOW ON


TEPPEI, YOU DON'T GET HOW LUCKY YOU ARE TO BE AFFILIATED TO A CLUB LIKE MILAN


I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE THIS RECKLESS.
!!!!

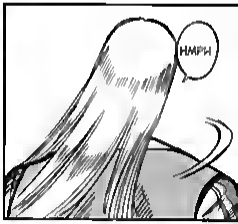
SFX: DOOM

DID YOU FORGET THAT YOUR OPPONENT IS MILAN'S FIRST TEAM?

AFTER ALL, THE ONE PASSING TO ME IS THE FUTURE CAPTAIN OF MILAN'S 1ST TEAM

I'LL MANAGE...

SFX POINT


HMPH

SFX YAAAHH!!
WHISTLE

Even though Rossi-san went out of his way to bring this kid from Japan, in the last game and the game before that he didn't seem all that great...
So today's opponent is that kid...
SFX LOOM

SO TRY AND FEEL FOR THE PASS!
DON'T TRY AND FIGHT THEM OFF BEHIND YOU.
Saka-moto...
SFX GRAB
ARE YOU LISTENING SAKAMOTO?
I'LL SEND YOU A PASS THAT'LL LET YOU FREELY RUN FORWARD...

HEHEHE... SEE? HE CAN'T SHAKE OFF MASTROIANNI-SAN.
SFX: NERVOUS
I WON'T LOSE!
NOT TO MARCO... NOT TO ANYONE.
SFX: THUD

Did you get at least a little fired up...
from seeing a top-class player like Marco?

?!
タン
SFX: TAP TAP
SFX: BOOM
..HE'S RIGHT ON HIS FEET!!
HE CAN'T SHAKE HIM OFF EVEN TURNING!!
SFX: THUD THUD
21
BUT SAKA-MOTO'S NOT FREE!
HE PAS-SED!
OPEL
OPEL

SFX: WHAM
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH YOUR LIFESTYLE AT STAKE.
?!
SFX: SLIDE
SFX: PUSH
?!
?!
WHAT?!

A direct loop..?!
The same move as Marco?!
SFX: WHISH
That surprised me...
He's good after all.

26
ARGH
adidas
P.S. Nee-chan.. I'm glad I came here to Italy. I'm getting stronger!!
adidas
SFX: WHOOOOO
YOU SCORED A GOAL !!
WHOO!!! DOKI NO SAKURA*!
*T/N: A JAPANESE SONG ABOUT CADETS IN THE SAME MILITARY CLASS SHARING A COMMON DESTINY (HIS FRIENDS ARE CHEERING HIM ON).

A joint release brought to you by:
Artificial Demons & ShoujoSense

Translator: Noctis

Proofreader: Sabbath

Cleaner: bobbyJr

Typesetter: hemony

Quality Checker: BlackCherry

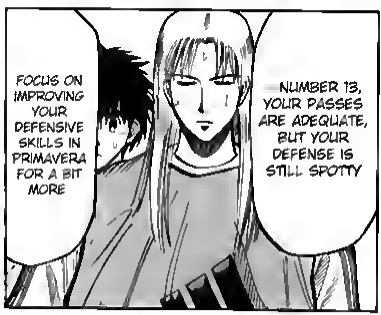
2ª KOTONE'S LETTER

WHOO!
NICE SHOT TEPPEI!
SFX WHAM
YEAH AND TEPPEI SCORED A GOAL JUST NOW.
SO TEPPEI AND FALCON! ARE JOINING THE FIRST TEAM'S PRACTICE TODAY?

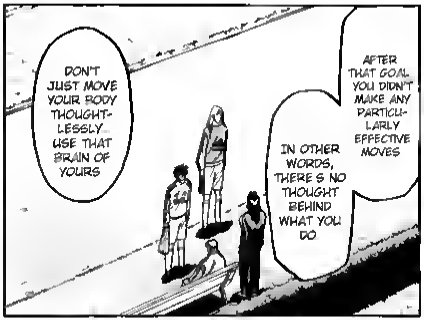
HE ONLY SCORED BECAUSE OF FALCON!'S EXCELLENT PASS!!
QUIT RAVING OVER HIM ALREADY!
URGH
IT WAS AWESOME HE COMPLETELY OUTPLAYED MASTRO-IANNI-SAN!

Because he shares the same position as Teppei..
Man Pietro's getting desperate ...
Hmm ...
SFX: SHOUT
It should be about time now
YOU'RE DONE FOR TODAY. GO TO THE MISTER AND GET YOUR EVALUATIONS!!
SAKAMOTO AND FALCONI!!
THE TWO FROM PRIMAVERA ...
Whistle
3

SFX: NOISE

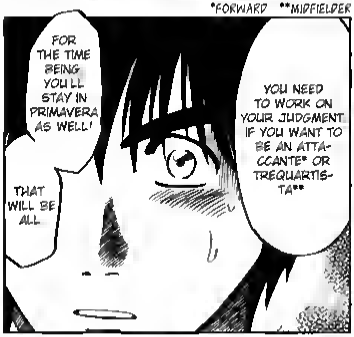

FOCUS ON IMPROVING YOUR DEFENSIVE SKILLS IN PRIMAVERA FOR A BIT MORE
NUMBER 13, YOUR PASSES ARE ADEQUATE, BUT YOUR DEFENSE IS STILL SPOTTY

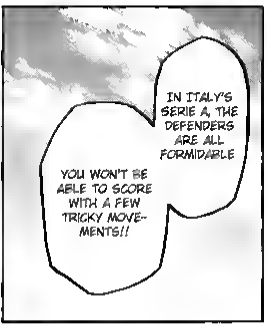
SFX: BABUMP BABUMP

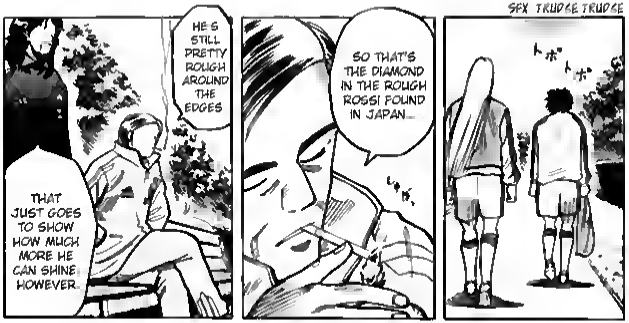

DON'T JUST MOVE YOUR BODY THOUGHT-LESSLY... USE THAT BRAIN OF YOURS
IN OTHER WORDS, THERE'S NO THOUGHT BEHIND WHAT YOU DO
AFTER THAT GOAL YOU DIDN'T MAKE ANY PARTICU-LARLY EFFECTIVE MOVES

*FORWARD **MIDFIELDER

5


FOR THE TIME BEING YOU'LL STAY IN PRIMAVERA AS WELL!
THAT WILL BE ALL
YOU NEED TO WORK ON YOUR JUDGMENT. IF YOU WANT TO BE AN ATTA-CCANTE* OR TREQUARTIS-TA**




SFX TRUDGE TRUDGE
HE'S STILL PRETTY ROUGH AROUND THE EDGES
THAT JUST GOES TO SHOW HOW MUCH MORE HE CAN SHINE HOWEVER.
SO THAT'S THE DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH ROSSI FOUND IN JAPAN...
トボ トボ

SFX FLICK
I'VE GOT SOMETHING I WANT TO DISCUSS WITH YOU. SO COME TO MY ROOM AFTERWARDS
THIS YEAR'S PRIMAVERA'S PRETTY INTERESTING!
COACH VALENTINO
UNDERSTOOD MISTER

LOUNGE
MILAN CLUBHOUSE
Centro Sportivo Milanello

I COULDN'T MAKE THE CUT AGAIN!!
SHIIIT !!!

WELL... IT IS THE THIRD TIME.
IT'S RARE FOR HIM TO BE THIS DOWN OVER IT.

I CAN'T DO THIS ANY-MORE!
AHHH

YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY HELPING ANTONIO.
DON'T BE SO DOWN ABOUT IT! THERE'S A SAYING FOR THIS IN JAPAN TOO, ISN'T THERE? "IT NEVER RAINS BUT IT POURS"?!

GA-HA-HA-HA-HA!
SO YOU DIDN'T MAKE IT, TEPPEI!!

...
MAN, THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU. NORMALLY YOU'RE BACK ON YOUR FEET IN NO TIME

LETTER
THE LETTER...
OPEL
OPEL

SFX: SHIFT

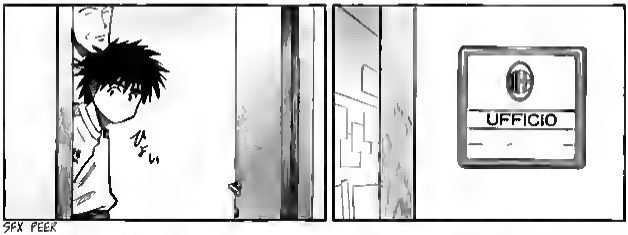
WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSE TO DO WITH HIM?
NOW I'M GONNA BE A LIAR...
I ALREADY POSTED A LETTER TO MY SISTER SAYING I WAS GOING TO BE PROMOTED TO THE FIRST TEAM TODAY...
OPEL
OPEL

8
DID YOU FORGET PIETRO? I SCORED A POINT I WON THE BET!!
AND ALSO...
JUST QUIETLY TUCK YOUR TAIL BETWEEN YOUR LEGS AND GO BACK TO JAPAN!!
SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO COMES FROM A COUNTRY WHERE THE LEVEL OF FOOTBALL IS UNDERDEVELOPED NEVER HAD A CHANCE

SFX: SQUEEZE

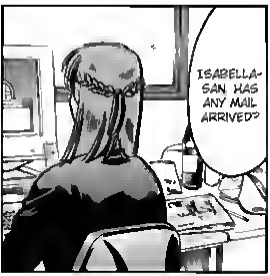
SFX SHOVE

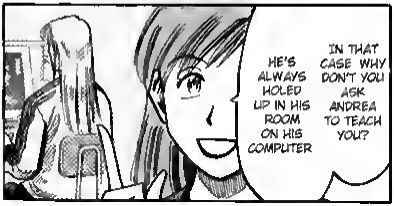
SFX WHISTLE


UFFICIO

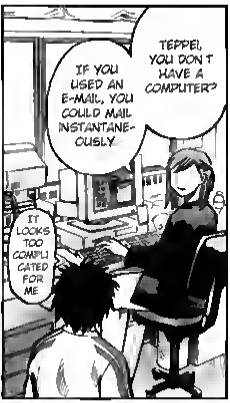
SFX PEEK

GRAZIE (THANK YOU)
GREAT TIMING THERE'S A LETTER FOR YOU FROM YOUR SISTER
OH, TEPPEI
OPEL

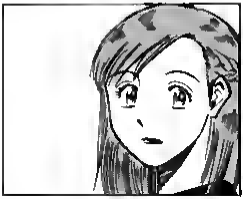

ISABELLA-SAN, HAS ANY MAIL ARRIVED?

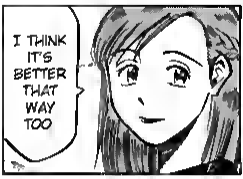

HE'S ALWAYS HOLED UP IN HIS ROOM ON HIS COMPUTER
IN THAT CASE WHY DON'T YOU ASK ANDREA TO TEACH YOU?

10

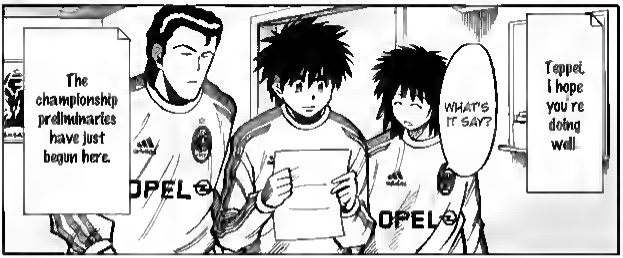

TEPPEI, YOU DON'T HAVE A COMPUTER?
IF YOU USED AN E-MAIL, YOU COULD MAIL INSTANTANEOUSLY.
IT LOOKS TOO COMPLICATED FOR ME

GAHAHA, THAT SOUNDS ABSOLUTELY AWFUL
LEARN FROM ANDREA?




I THINK IT'S BETTER THAT WAY TOO

I PREFER WRITING LETTERS THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY
THAT'S HOW I'VE ALWAYS DONE IT UNTIL NOW.
SFX SMILE

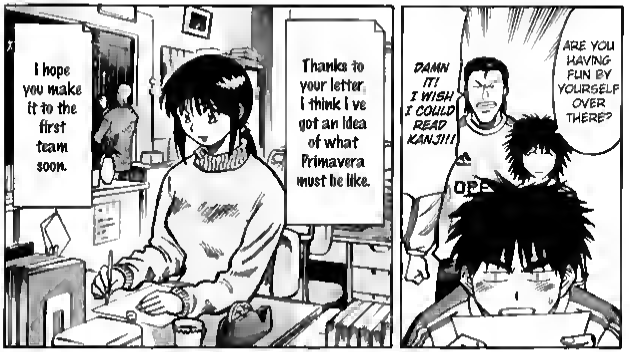

The championship preliminaries have just begun here.
WHAT'S IT SAY?
Teppei, I hope you're doing well.

This year, under captain Uchida-kun's leadership we're aiming to get past that.
THE JAPANESE TEAM I WAS IN BEFORE ARE IN THE PRELIMINARIES FOR A TOURNAMENT.....
OH, I SEE
Last year thanks to Kosaka-kun and the others, we managed to make the top 16.

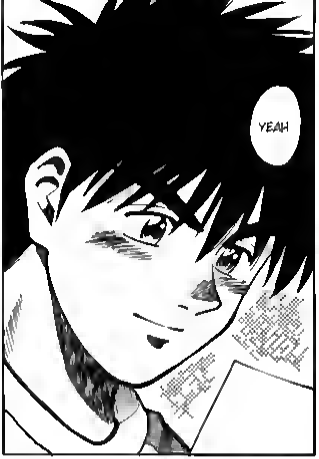
FIVE GOALS?!
Baba-kun's already made five goals since the preliminaries started...
SHE DIDN'T MENTION THAT AT ALL IN THE LAST LETTER...
WAIT, UCHIDA'S THE CAPTAIN?!

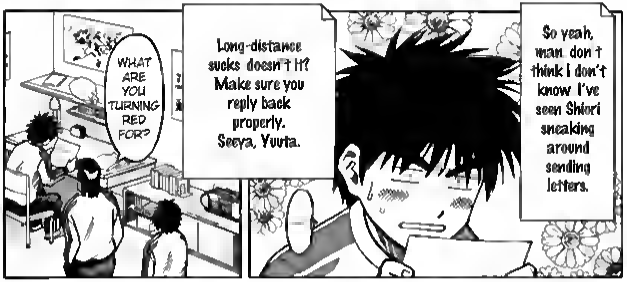
THAT'S AMAZING!
As for Kasukabe-kun
he's been picked as a candidate for Japan's Youth Representative.

12

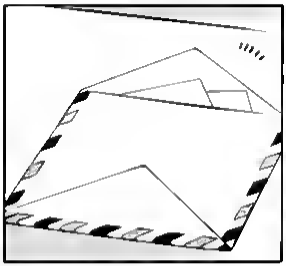

I hope you make it to the first team soon.
Thanks to your letter, I think I've got an idea of what Primavera must be like.
DAMN IT! I WISH I COULD READ KANJI!!!
ARE YOU HAVING FUN BY YOURSELF OVER THERE?

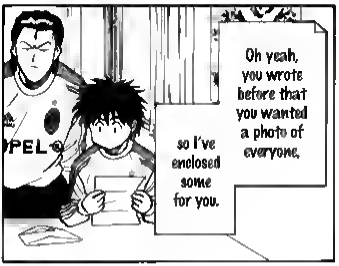
T/N I DON'T KNOW WHAT A BASIC MENU IS SOUNDS LIKE A PRACTICE MENU TO ME

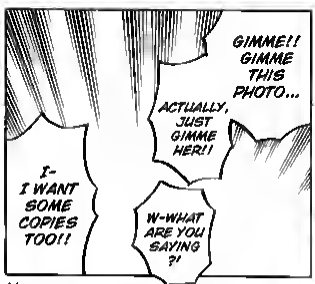



WHAT ARE YOU TURNING RED FOR?
Long-distance sucks doesn't it? Make sure you reply back properly. Seeya, Yuuta.
So yeah, man don't think I don't know I've seen Shiori sneaking around sending letters.

13

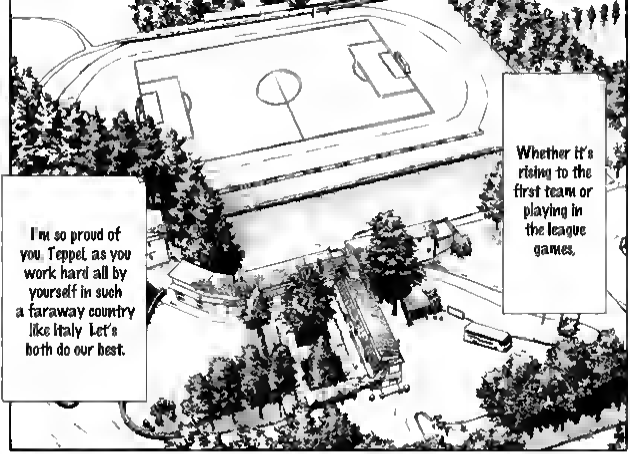




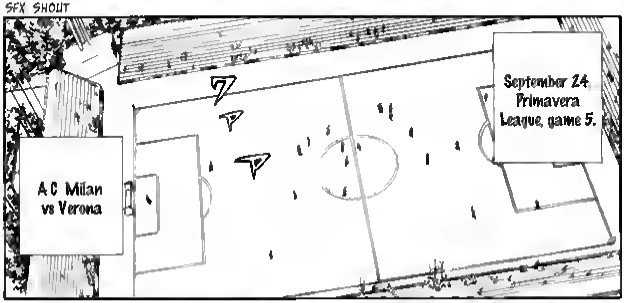

GIMME!! GIMME THIS PHOTO...
ACTUALLY, JUST GIMME HER!!
I- I WANT SOME COPIES TOO!!
W-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ?!

So I hear the Primavera League games have begun too...

WHAT... WHAT'S WITH THIS QUALITY LEVEL ?!!!
WHO ARE THEY?!


I'm so proud of you, Teppei, as you work hard all by yourself in such a faraway country like Italy. Let's both do our best.
Whether it's rising to the first team or playing in the league games,

SFX: SHOUT



SFX: SCRAMBLE

SFX: SHOUT

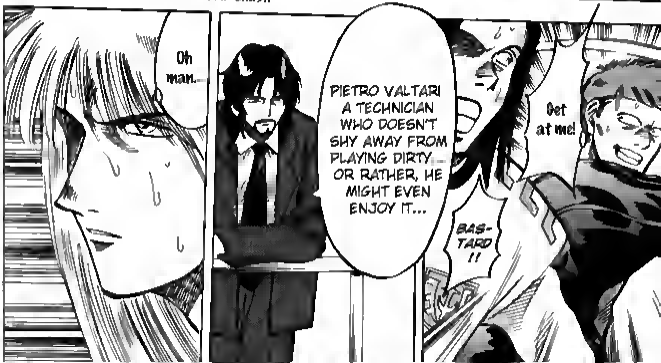
VECCHIO OF VERONA...
HE SHOOTS, FROM OUTSIDE THE PENALTY AREA!
SFX WHOOSH
HMPH
ANTO-NIO!!
SFX WHAM

ANTO-NIO!!
TSK
QUIT CATCH-ING THE BALL LIKE THAT!
CATCH IT PRO-PERLY UP FRONT!!
GAH...WHY QUIT BEING SUCH A WORRY-WART.
I COULD CATCH AN EASY BALL LIKE THAT IN MY SLEEP!!

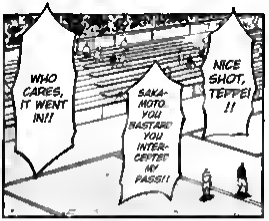
WHAT'S WITH THAT GOAL-KEEPER?
ANTONIO DANTE. HE'S GOT GOOD REFLEXES, BUT HIS PERSONALITY IS A BIT TOO RECKLESS...
THERE'S A TENDENCY TO TAKE THE PRIMAVERA RATHER LIGHTLY....
HOWEVER, THE NUMBER OF GAMES THEY PLAY AND THE WAY THEIR GAMES ARE SCHEDULED ARE BASICALLY THE SAME AS THAT OF THE PRO LEAGUES.
YOU COULD CALL THIS A MINI VERSION OF SERIE A.
...BUT THIS GAME ISN'T ALL TOO EXCITING.

SFX: DASH
WELL, IT IS IMPORTANT TO PLANT FROM AN EARLY AGE THE RHYTHM OF THE PRO WORLD
...

WASN'T HE ON THE OTHER SIDE JUST NOW?!
Wham
DINO SILVESTRI HE'S GOOD AT RUNNING ACROSS THE FIELD, BUT HIS TECHNIQUE'S NOT QUITE THERE YET...
PANT
AND HIMP
PANT
SFX WHAM
GION
KUH!!
SFX CRUSH


Oh mam..
PIETRO VALTARI A TECHNICIAN WHO DOESN'T SHY AWAY FROM PLAYING DIRTY... OR RATHER, HE MIGHT EVEN ENJOY IT...
Get at me!
BAS-TARD !!

LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT A VARIED BUNCH AT PRIMAVERA THIS YEAR
BUT THEY DON'T LOOK UNWORKABLE.
!
SFX: KICK
SFX: WHOOSH
SO WHAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT WITH YOU EARLIER... WILL YOU DO IT?
BECOME PRIMAVERA'S NEW COACH.
SFX: WHAM
...SAKAMOTO, YOU ASS!!
WHY NOT?



*A GOLDEN ERA FOR MILAN IN WHICH THEY WERE AMONG THE TOP TEAMS IN ITALY AND WON THE SERIE A MULTIPLE TIMES

A joint release brought to you by

Artificial Demons & ShoujoSense

Translator: Noctis

Proofreader: Greatestsin

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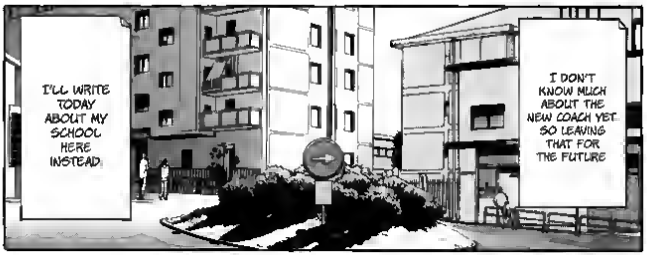
I'M GOING TO INTRODUCE YOU TO YOUR NEW MISTER.
I'VE CALLED YOU ALL TOGETHER HERE THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING FOR EXACTLY ONE REASON ..
Centro Sportivo milanello
...
YOU ALL KNOW HIM HE'S MR VALENTINO DAMIANI, THE COACH FOR THE FIRST TEAM.
AND
THE REST WILL BE CUT OFF!!
I'LL PULL ALONG THOSE WHO CAN KEEP UP.
I M GONNA KEEP THIS SHORT AND SIMPLE
YOUR PREVIOUS COACH MR. DE NIRO, HAD TO LEAVE BECAUSE OF FAMILY MATTERS...
sfx Shift
HE HE

3ª
The Meaning of Scudetto

HE TREATED ME REALLY WELL SINCE I ARRIVED HERE IN ITALY, SO I FEEL A BIT DOWN ABOUT IT...
KEEP IT UP, TRIPPE!
DEAR NEE-CHAN...
DUE TO HIS FAMILIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, COACH DE NIRO HAD TO MOVE TO ANOTHER TEAM.


I'LL WRITE TODAY ABOUT MY SCHOOL HERE INSTEAD.
I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE NEW COACH YET. SO LEAVING THAT FOR THE FUTURE.

3

HEY ANTONIO TELL ME SOME-THING
WHAT IS IT TEPPEI? AND WHAT'S WITH THE AWKWARD QUESTION?
ON WEEK-DAYS I ATTEND A NORMAL HIGH SCHOOL LIKE ANY OTHER STUDENT
OF COURSE MY PRIMAVERA TEAMMATES ATTEND ALONG WITH ME.
SFX: RING RING

WHAT?!
SO WHAT'S A "SCUDETTO"?
YOU TOO, DINO?!
TEPPEI... I'M STARTING TO SEE WHY PIETRO THINKS YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT.
YEP
YOU MEAN YOU'VE SPENT THIS WHOLE PAST YEAR WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT THAT IS?!
4
I COULD HEAR YOU GUYS ALL THE WAY FROM THE HALLWAY
THIS IS RODIO STORARO
HE'S THE FOWARD ON OUR MILAN TEAM. HE'S FROM A TINY VILLAGE CALLED MONTE ROSA, LOCATED AT THE BASE OF THE ALPS
WHAT'S THE FUSS THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING?
RODIO

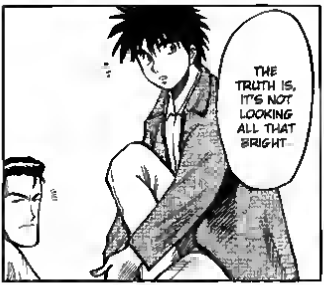
This
THE SCUDETTO IS A SHIELD-SHAPE COAT OF ARMS THAT THE WINNING TEAM OF THE SERIE A GETS TO WEAR
RODIO THIS GUY'S SAYING THAT HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT THE SCUDETTO IS
TELL HIM WHAT IT IS IT'S HURTING ME
HAHAHA, WELL I AM NOT SURPRISED
NOTICE HOW THERE'S A STAR ABOVE THE LOGO ON THE MILAN JERSEY?
DOES HE CARRY THAT AROUND WITH HIM?
IN-TER-EST-ING...
IN OTHER WORDS, ONLY THOSE WHO CAN EMERGE VICTORIOUS IN A FIERCE LEAGUE COMPETITION SUCH AS THE SERIES CAN BEAR THAT PATCH
IT'S QUITE A PRESTIGIOUS SYMBOL
5
EVEN IF IT'S JUST THE PRIMAVERA, IT'S A GREAT HONOR TO EARN THE SCUDETTO.
ACM
1899
IT MEANS THAT IN THE PAST, MILAN'S WON THE SCUDETTO AT LEAST TEN TIMES
THE ONLY OTHER TEAMS THAT HAVE THIS STAR ARE JUVENTUS AND INTER NAZIONALE

YEAH. THE MISTER WAS BASICALLY DECLARING HIS INTENT FOR VICTORY THIS MORNING
HUH. SO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS, IF US PRIMAVERA WIN A LEAGUE COMPETITION, WE'LL GET THAT THING TOO?

19

RODIO... YOUR MOM, HOW'S SHE DOING?

6

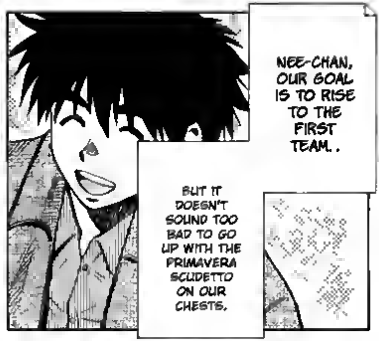

THE TRUTH IS, IT'S NOT LOOKING ALL THAT BRIGHT

BUT IF ANYTHING, THE ONE THING THAT'S POPULAR THERE IS FOOTBALL
WHERE I COME FROM IS JUST A SMALL BACK-WATER VILLAGE
I'M GLAD!
BUT THE DOCTOR SAID THAT SHE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF BED IN SIX MONTHS.
SO MY MOM'S REALLY HAPPY ABOUT IT.
THEY WRITE ARTICLES ABOUT ME IN OUR SMALL VILLAGE NEWS-PAPER...
EVEN SOMEONE LIKE ME, BECAUSE I'M WEARING MILAN'S JERSEY AND SCORING GOALS.

RODIO
I FEAR FOR THE STATE OF MY RIBS EVERY TIME SHE HUGS ME.
MY MOM'S THE SAME WAY.
YEAH, I GET YOU.

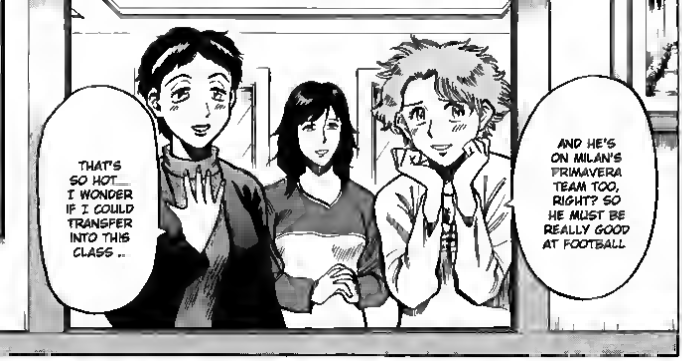
YEAH!
ANYWAYS, LET'S ALL GO GET THAT SCUDETTO!!

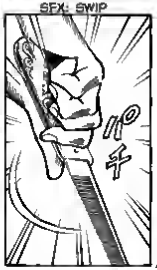
SO FOR NOW, MY IMMEDIATE GOAL IS TO WIN THE SCUDETTO WITH THESE GUYS UNDER THE NEW COACH.


NEE-CHAN, OUR GOAL IS TO RISE TO THE FIRST TEAM..
BUT IT DOESN'T SOUND TOO BAD TO GO UP WITH THE PRIMAVERA SCUDETTO ON OUR CHESTS.

I JUST LOVE THAT ORIENTAL LOOK...
WITH THAT FLAKEN SKIN AND THOSE JET BLACK EYES THAT JUST DRAW YOU IN...

NOT BAD AT ALL...
OOH...


THAT'S SO HOT... I WONDER IF I COULD TRANSFER INTO THIS CLASS..
AND HE'S ON MILAN'S PRIMAVERA TEAM TOO, RIGHT? SO HE MUST BE REALLY GOOD AT FOOTBALL



* AN ITALIAN WORD MEANING "CUTE GIRL"

HEY... COULD YOU MOVE FROM THERE?
WHAT'S WITH THAT GORILLA.
CIAO
AND CLASS IS GOING TO START SOON...
THAT'S MY SEAT.
CLAU DIA...

wipe
wipe
MY BAD SORRY
stand

TEPPEI
NO MATTER WHAT WONDERS MY EYES HAVE SEEN, NOTHING COMPARES TO THE BEAUTY I SEE WHEN I LOOK AT YOU, CLAUDIA IF ONLY OUR PATHS SHOULD CROSS IN OUR DREAMS TONIGHT
CLAUDIA! YOU'RE AS RADIANT TODAY AS ALWAYS!!

YOU SHOULD KNOW, IF YOU THINK ALL ITALIANS LIKE FOOT-BALL, YOU'RE WRONG
WHAT?
SHE REMINDS ME OF NEE-CHAN
SO YOU DON'T LIKE FOOTBALL, CLAUDIA?

I ALSO DON'T LIKE THE JAPANESE

AND ONE MORE THING.

JUST THE FACE THOUGH
FRANKLY SPEAKING NO I DON'T

I'VE KNOWN YOU FOR ALMOST A YEAR, BUT I DON'T KNOW THAT
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T SPEAK THE LANGUAGE WHEN YOU FIRST CAME HERE

THE TRUTH IS, PIETRO ALSO LIKES CLAUDIA.
PUMP
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET, SAKANO-TO!

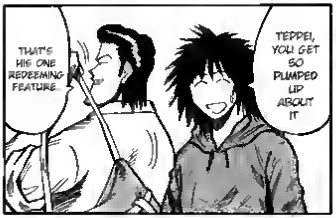
12

IN A LIFE DEVOTED TO FOOTBALL, THIS IS THE ONE TIME I CAN THINK ABOUT OTHER THINGS
Squeal
Squeal
WHAT'RE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT?
ANYWAYS, SCHOOL IS FUN.

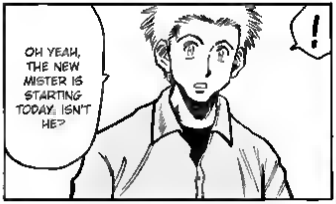
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN SLACK OFF, BECAUSE IF YOU DO, YOU'LL FALL BEHIND RIGHT AWAY.
DINO'S SMART
IN ITALIAN HIGH SCHOOLS CLASSES LAST FOR ONLY 4 HOURS IN THE MORNING
SO UNLIKE JAPAN WE GET A LOT OF FREE TIME.

IN THIS COUNTRY, WHETHER YOU CHOOSE TO BETTER OR WORSEN YOUR LIFE, IT'S ALL UP TO YOU
IF YOUR GRADES ARE TOO BAD, EVEN AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT WOULD HAVE TO REPEAT A GRADE.

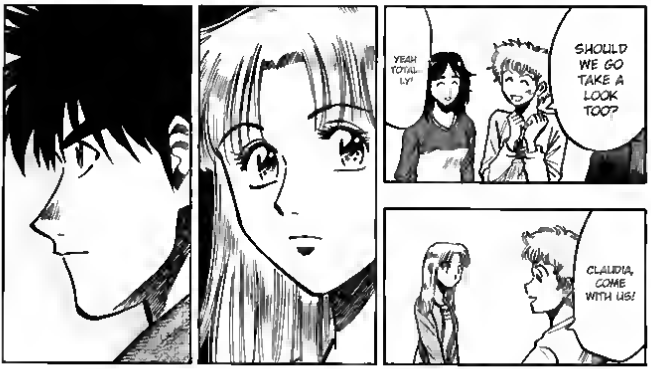
13

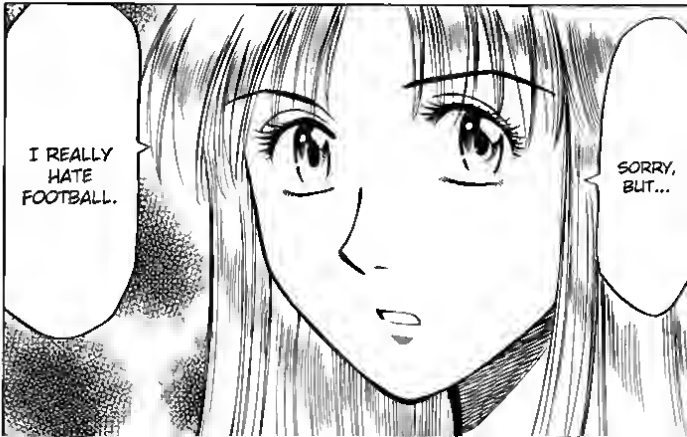

TEPPEI, YOU GET SO PUMPED UP ABOUT IT
THAT'S HIS ONE REDEEMING FEATURE.

YES WE'RE DONE FOR THE DAY!! DINO! ANTONIO! ROBIO! LET'S GO PRACTICE!!


!
OH YEAH, THE NEW MISTER IS STARTING TODAY, ISN'T HE?

DIDN'T HE LOOK KINDA LAID-BACK TO YOU?
WHY'S THAT?
THEN EVEN IF WE'RE A LITTLE LATE THAT SHOULD BE OKAY, RIGHT?


YEAH TOTAL-LY!
SHOULD WE GO TAKE A LOOK TOO?
CLAUDIA, COME WITH US!


I REALLY HATE FOOTBALL.
SORRY, BUT...

OH...THE MISTER'S ALREADY HERE...
SFX: CHATTER
YEAH AND
GO RUN TWENTY LAPS.
YOU'RE TWO MINUTES LATE.
SFX: DASH
TWENTY?!
TW
OPEL
OPEL

HONK!
HONK!
YOU WERE WRONG ABOUT HIM, ANTONIO
NAH, IT'S JUST COS THIS IS THE FIRST TIME, SO HE'S COMING IN STRONG TO TRY AND MAKE A STATEMENT RIGHT?
OPEL
FROM NOW ON, EVERY MINUTE YOU'RE LATE WILL MEAN AN EXTRA TEN LAPS AROUND THE FIELD!

16

SUDDEN? THEN YOU SHOULD'VE COME EARLIER TO STRETCH AND WARM UP, DON'T YOU THINK?!
NEXT SPLIT INTO TWO FOR AN INTRASQUAD SCRIMMAGE!
NOW!
H HOLD ON JUST A SECOND
THAT'S TOO SUDDEN...

!!
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DO IT, THAT'S FINE WITH ME...
I DON'T NEED PLAYERS LIKE THAT HERE
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I LAST FELT THIS KIND OF TENSION
THE LAST TIME WAS AT THE REPRESENTATIVE TRAINING CAMP
SFX WHISPER
WHAT'S WITH HIM? ISN'T THAT A LITTLE TOO TYRANNICAL?
HE'S JUST COME HERE TOO...
17
I SAID IT THIS MORNING
THAT WE'RE AIMING FOR THE SCUDETTO...
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET BY ANYMORE WITH A HALF-BAKED MINDSET!!
BUT IT WAS HARSHER BACK THEN, THAN HERE...
OPEL

TO PUT IT SIMPLY THIS TEAM HAS EXACTLY TWENTY-TWO MEMBERS RIGHT NOW
... AND, WE'LL BE GETTING A NEW RECRUIT SOON!!
SFX: MUTTER
ONE OF YOU HERE WILL HAVE TO DROP OUT...
WHICH MEANS
ざわ
18
WH
OPEL
OPEL
!!

THE NEW RECRUIT IS GOING TO BE A FOWARD.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS MEANS?

I'LL BE DECIDING WHO TO DROP DURING THE GAMES THIS WEEKEND!!
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE DROPPED, PLAY AS IF YOUR LIVES ARE ON THE LINE! ESPECIALLY THOSE OF YOU IN AN OFFENCE POSITION!!

TSK
OPEL
OPEL

WHISTLE

NEE-CHAN ..IN THIS COUNTRY, WHETHER YOU CHOOSE TO BETTER OR WORSEN YOUR LIFE, IT'S ALL UP TO YOU..

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Artificial Demons
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Translator: Noctis
Proofreader: Greatestsin
Cleaner: BlackCherry
Typesetter: Sabbath
Quality Checker: BlackCherry
From fans to fans. Please support the author by purchasing the original copy once it is available in your country.

Forgive me sis, but...

SFX: CHEER

In Italy the coach is called "mister." apparently it's a word derivation from English soccer.

We finally got a new Mister.

I think I wrote that in my last letter.

The Mister's name is Damiani Valentino.

He looks a little suspicious,

and he sure creates a stir in our peace and tranquility.

4ª That Day From a Year Ago

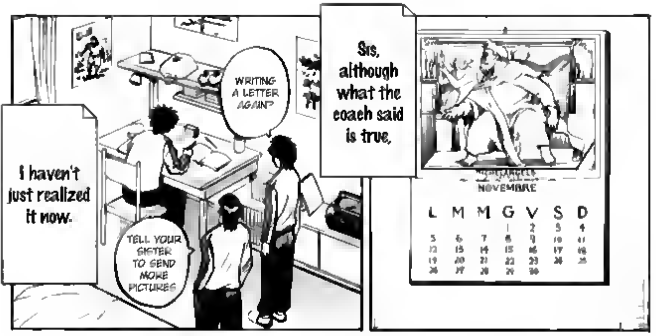
Ha
Ha
OPEL
Bmmmm
GOOD, TODAY'S PRACTICE ENDS HERE!!
I WILL ONCE AGAIN TELL YOU GUYS WHAT I SAID BEFORE PRACTICE!!
I'M NOT THREATENING YOU GUYS!!
Ha
Ha
MY PLAN IS TO ELECT A SMALL AMOUNT OF ELITES!! SO I ONLY NEED 22 MEMBERS TO FORM EXACTLY 2 TEAMS!!
AND A NEW GUY WHO IS HOPING TO PLAY "FORWARD"
3
IF THAT GUY IS GOOD, I WILL LET HIM STAY.
SO IN THAT CASE, ONE OF YOU GUYS WILL BE TAKEN OUT.
SO AT THAT TIME...

THAT'S TYRANY!!
ONE OF YOU GUYS WILL PACK UP AND LEAVE!!
ARE YOU A FORWARD...?
THAT'S NOT THE QUESTION, TEIPEI...
WHO...OUT OF THE FORWARDS?
4
HAHAH, THAT INCLUDES THE GUY WHO LOST HIS POSITION AFTER TEIPEI CAME.
IF THAT FORWARD GUY CAN PLAY MIDFIELD AND DEFENSE,
THEN YOU ALL HAVE THE POSSIBILITY OF LEAVING

OUR PREVIOUS COACH, MR NIRO WOULDN'T BE THIS UNREASONABLE!!
IT'S TRUE WE HAVE COMPETITION GOING ON...
...
BUT..
NO WAY!
GOAL KEEPERS ARE NO EXCEPTIONS EITHER.
WHO IS THE COACH NOW?
UHM?
PREVIOUS?
I'VE HEARD OF HIM
STOP ACTING LIKE A SPOILED BRAT
YOU GUYS HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED IN THE WORLD OF PROFESSIONAL SOCCER PLAYERS!!
!!
AREN'T YOU GUYS BETTING YOUR LIFE ON SOCCER?

STARTING FROM TOMORROW'S PRACTICE, WE WILL MAKE 2 TOP GROUPS AND SEE HOW GOOD YOU GUYS ARE!!
THAT'S IT!! BREAK UP!!

YOU WILL BE KICKED OUT!!
YEAH
WHAT THE COACH SAID IS PRETTY CLEAR, ISN'T IT?
IF IT'S LIKE THAT, THEN TEIPEI WILL BE FORCED TO RETURN TO JAPAN...
DON'T SAY SUCH UN-LUCKY THINGS.
RIGHT NOW IN JAPAN IT SHOULD BE AROUND FALL...

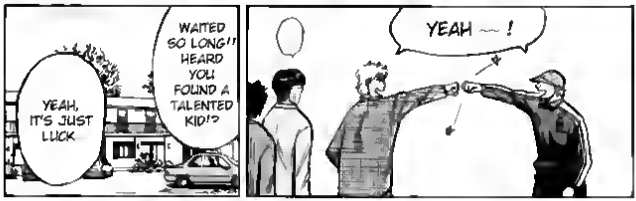

WRITING A LETTER AGAIN?
TELL YOUR SISTER TO SEND MORE PICTURES
I haven't just realized it now.
Sis, although what the coach said is true,
NOVEMBRE
L M M G V S D

FORWARD
WORK HARD, I WILL SUPPORT YOU.
Write about me, too!
So annoying, leave me alone!
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, TEIPEI HAS ALREADY BEEN IN ITALY FOR A YEAR.

I had already realized a year ago.
TEIPEI

Centro
Sportivo
Milanello
A YEAR AGO
MILANELLO

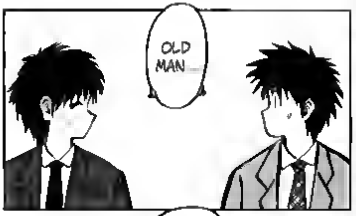
DE NIRO!
ROSHI!


WAITED SO LONG!! HEARD YOU FOUND A TALENTED KID!?
YEAH, IT'S JUST LUCK.
YEAH ~ !

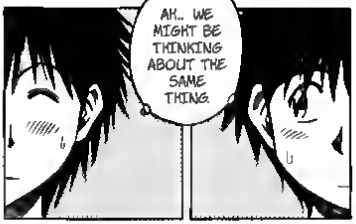
WOAH, YOUR ITALIAN IS QUITE FLUENT!!
HA HA HA, HE IS PICKING IT UP LITTLE BY LITTLE.
MY NAME IS TEIPEI SAKAMOTO.
HELLO

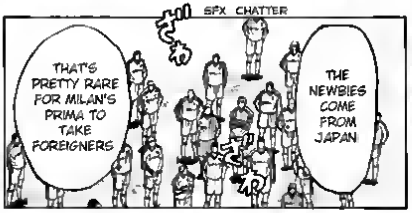
SAME AGE AS SAKAMOTO KUN
THIS IS DINO SILVESTRI
FROM SARDINIA ISLAND.
YUP
Centro Sportivo Milano!!!
SO YOU ARE ITALIAN?
THE ROOM IS 3 PEOPLE A GROUP.
THERE ARE 3 ROOMS, BATHROOM IS SHARED
I'M DINO SILVESTRI.
HELLO, MY NAME IS TEIPEI SAKAMOTO.

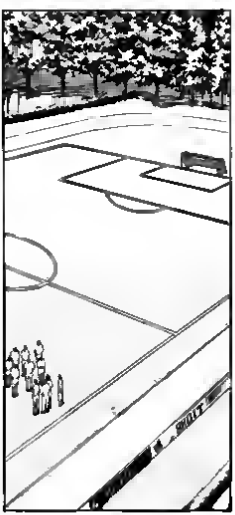
OI, ANTONIO, THESE 2 ARE YOUR NEW ROOMMATES, GET ALONG!!
SO YOU GUYS ARE GOING TO LIVE TOGETHER FROM NOW ON


OLD MAN...

HA HA HA HA HA!
YOU GUYS FINALLY CAME! IT WAS SO LONELY HERE
I WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU BRATS!!

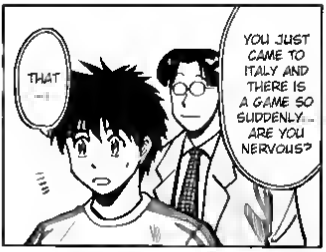

AH.. WE MIGHT BE THINKING ABOUT THE SAME THING.


SFX CHATTER
THAT'S PRETTY RARE FOR MILAN'S PRIMA TO TAKE FOREIGNERS
THE NEWBIES COME FROM JAPAN



10

LET'S PLAY A "GAME" NOW!!
FIRST OF ALL, I WANT TO CHECK OUT ALL YOU GUYS' SKILLS.
OPEL


THAT...
YOU JUST CAME TO ITALY AND THERE IS A GAME SO SUDDENLY... ARE YOU NERVOUS?

A GAME
WHAT?
GAME !?

HA HA HA... IT'S NORMAL TO BE NERVOUS

SFX: KA-CHING
THERE IS A PART HER...

I'M THIS TEAM'S NUMBER 10 PLAYER
OUR CAPTAIN FALCONI IS NUMBER ONE AND IN TRAINING RIGHT NOW.
SO LOOK FOR ME IF THERE ARE ANY PROBLEMS.

WELCOME TO MILAN
MY NAME IS PIERROT BARTALLI
EVEN THOUGH IT'S PRIMAVERA, PLAYING IN BIG TOURNAMENTS IS QUITE OUTSTANDING
adidas
OPEL

HELLO, MY NAME IS TEIPEI SAKAMOTO.
IS THAT ALL HE KNOWS HOW TO SAY
OPEL
OPEL
SAKAMOTO SHOULD BE FINE...
IF NOT, HE WILL HAVE TO RETURN TO JAPAN...
SFX: BAM
WILL HE BE OKAY WITH THE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE BARRIER?
COMMUNICATION IS VERY IMPORTANT IN SOCCER...
THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY.

LET'S TEASE YOU FOR A BIT
!
SFX WHACK
SFX WHOOSH
SO FAST!
DINO !!
FIRST IMPRESSIONS ARE IMPORTANT.
JUST A LITTLE MISTAKE, THEY WON'T NOTICE ME!!

SFX: HIT
WHOA
OPEL
SFX: KYU KYU
!
THAT PIERROT
HE IS PLAYING WITH THEM.
THOSE NEWBIES ARE NERVOUS ENOUGH. AND HE IS STILL SHOWING NO MERCY
SHIT!
Huff
Huff
Huff
THIS IS BAD.
CAN'T CONTROL MY BODY
Huff
Huff
adidas
OPEL
Dribble!
Dribble!
Dribble!

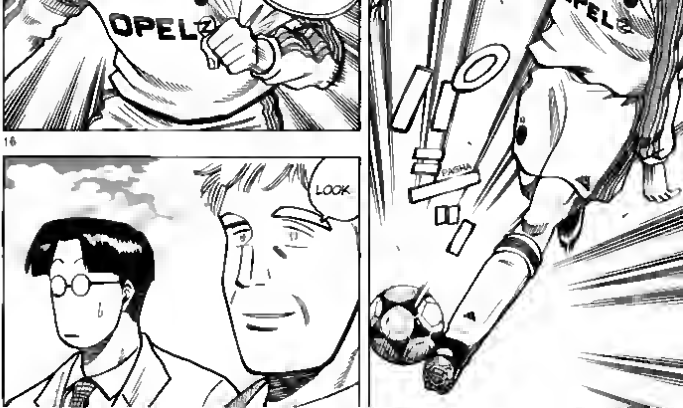
THOSE TWO ARE TOO DAMN NERVOUS...
DINO IS DOING BAD TODAY...
TODAY'S PROBABLY NOT GONNA BE GOOD
IT WAS THE SAME FOR ME WHEN I FIRST ARRIVED
BUT THAT'S NORMAL

I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO TEACH HIM ITALIAN...
THAT GUY DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT WE'RE SAYING
BUT THIS IS A REALLY BAD SITUATION ....!!
I KNOW I SHOULDN'T BE NERVOUS...
Avanti!
Sinistra!!

WHAT THE HECK IS HE SAYING!?
!?
!
THUD

SFX. DOOM

HOW DID I KNOW HIS PASS TIMING..
HUH?


LOOK

AFTER ALL, THIS IS SOCCER.
IT'S NOT HARDER THAN THIS BUT IT'S NOT EASIER THAN THIS
THIS IS WHAT COACH HAREN TALKED ABOUT...
"PUT YOUR MIND INTO THE BALL"...?
SFX WHAP
ACCEPT MY BAPTISM!!

!
FIRST
SIS SAID THAT...
WHAT!?

ENJOY SOCCER !!
OPEL
adidas
THAT PLAY ...!?
.....
18

THAT JAPANESE'S PASS LET DINO LOOSEN UP?
THEY USED A WALL PASS TO ESCAPE FROM FIERROT!!
THAT JAPANESE IS GOOD!!
OPEL
OPEL
HE DID IT
YEA-YEA
rosh
SFX WOAHHH
SHIT
19
SFX YUN GYUN
THAT DUDE
IS FAST TOO!!

IF IT'S SPEED, I'M FASTER !!
SFX: WHAP
PIERROT!!
SFX: THUD

FAULT ...!?
TEIPE!!

!
BEEP
AS
...
HE IS LOOKING AT ME!!

Sis...
I believe that that day, in Italy, what I learned in Japan became useful.
CLANK

NICE SHOT DINO!!
SFX CLANK
SFX WOAH
THAT JAPANESE DUDE IS GOOD!!
THANK YOU TEIFEI!! THAT WAS A NICE PASS!!

But at that time... I still didn't know the truth...

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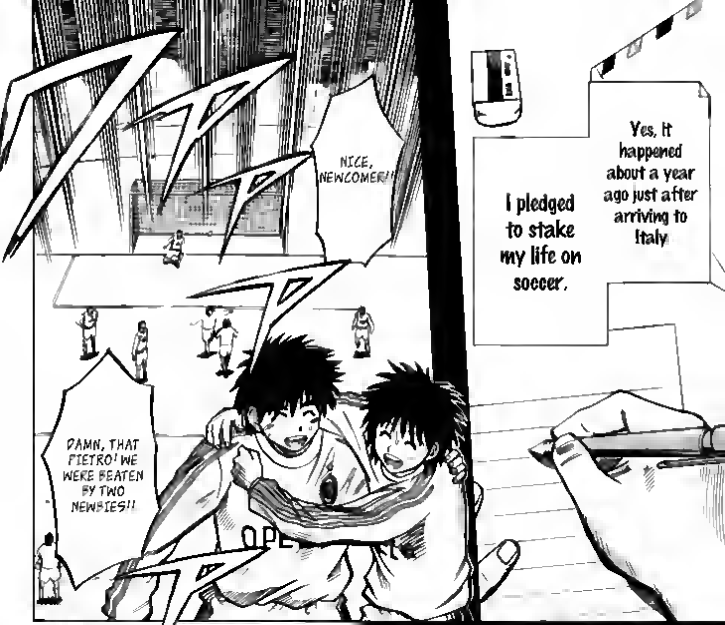
5

The Meaning of the Number 10


NICE, NEWCOMER!!
DAMN, THAT PIETRO! WE WERE BEATEN BY TWO NEWBIES!!
I pledged to stake my life on soccer.
Yes, it happened about a year ago just after arriving to Italy

2 SFX: CHEERING

TRUTH BE TOLD, I FELT QUEASY

NOT TO MENTION PLAYING FOR SUCH A BIG CLUB IS JUST...
THAT I WOULD FIND MYSELF ON MILAN GROUND

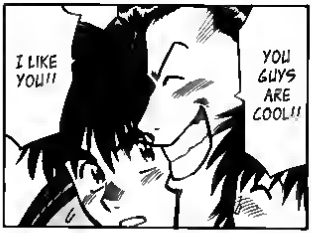
IF IM WITH HIM, IT SEEMS I WILL DO JUST FINE
IM SO HAPPY!

AFTER ALL, OUR FORCE AS A TEAM.
YEAH.

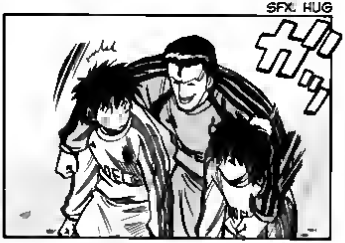
I CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT HE HAS TO SAY!!
EVEN IF WE DON'T UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER...
WITH A BALL...
!!?
WHAT?
IT'S MINE!
PIETRO?
SFX: KICK
YOU WANT TO FIGHT ME, JAPANESE?
GEEZ
?
HE STOLE THE BALL FROM HIS ALLY?

SFX: SWIFTLY

*T/L NOTE: MEANS TEPPEI IS STILL A KID, TOO NAIVE



SFX: HUG



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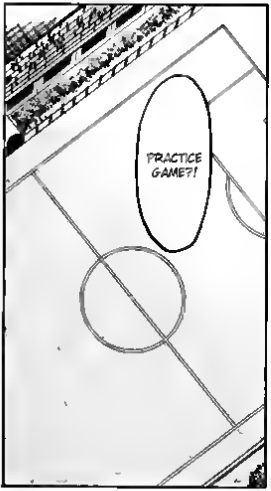
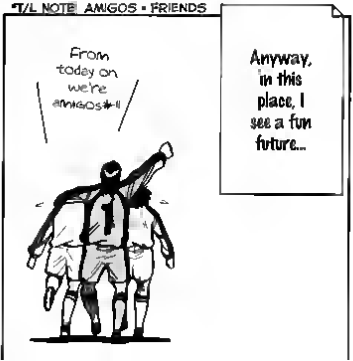


T/L NOTE: AMIGOS = FRIENDS



Yes, until that time..
THEY'RE LOWER RANK OPPONENTS
LET'S HAVE A LITTLE FUN
STARTING MEMBERS, WHEN YOUR NAME IS CALLED—
COME AND GET YOUR UNIFORM.
*T/L NOTE: SPANISH/ITALIAN FOR 'YES'
PRACTICE GAME?
SI*!
NO 2 DF JOEY
YES
NO 3 MF WENEL
MISTER SAID YOU WOULD GO TOO
NO 8
REALLY?
?
NO 9
NO 10
AH
THAT'S ME—

TEPPEI SAKAMOTO.

ザワッ

POSITION IS FW.
YOU WILL PLAY IN THE FRONT.

START -ING MEMB -ER?

SO..
HURRY UP AND TAKE IT

OKAY LET'S GO!!

MILAN
COMO
3
2
0
0
SAPLA

OPEL

10

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE WEARING NO. 10?
NOT TOO SHABBY, JAPANESE

2 ASSISTS 2 GOALS
I WOULDN'T SAY THEY WERE WEAK. THAT JAPANESE WAS PRETTY GOOD
DINO RAN A LOT TOO

TO SUM IT UP...
?
TELL HIM WHAT IT REALLY MEANS
SAKA-MOTO, THAT UNIFORM IS...
HE WAS ONCE THE ONE WEARING THAT NO. 10.
11
HMMM
IF NO. 10 WAS HIS, HE SHOULD JUST WEAR IT NEXT TIME
OPEL
BUT TODAY WAS ONLY A PRACTICE GAME, RIGHT?
!
SAKAMOTO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF NO. 10

GIANNI RIVERA
ROBERTO BAGGIO
DEL PIERO
IN ITALY, THE NUMBER 10 HAS A SPECIAL MEANING.
In England it's no 7
10
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND IF YOU SEE A PLAYER BURDENED BY THAT NUMBER...
FROM PAST TO PRESENT

IN ITALY, YOUNG BOYS YEARN TO BE THE SYMBOL OF A FANTASISTA.
IN AN INSTANT, THAT NO. 10 CAN LEAD ITS TEAM TO VICTORY.
OPEL

OPEL
FANTASISTA?
THEN ALL THE MORE REASON—
adidas
TEPPEI
SFX: CLOTHES BEING TAKEN OFF
13

I'M NOT REALLY OBSESSED WITH NUMBERS
RATHER THAN THE TEAM FIGHTING
OL
SFX: GRAB

I HOPE TO GET ALONG WITH EVERYONE.

shocked
OPEL
OPEL

14

SFX: ANGER

OPEL
OPEL

.....
YOU... WHAT THE FUCK...
15
DON'T YOU FUCK WITH ME, JAPANESE!!

BEING PITIED FOR GETTING MY POSITION SNATCHED AWAY...
DO YOU THINK I FIND IT FUNNY?!
!?
SFX: POINTING
IF YOU JUST CAME TO MAKE FUN OF MY COUNTRY'S SOCCER...
THEN DRAG YOUR ASS BACK TO JAPAN, RIGHT NOW!!

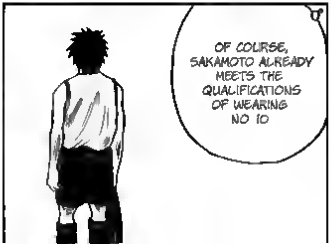
EVENTUALLY, I WILL SNATCH THE NO 10 AWAY FROM YOU, BASTARD!

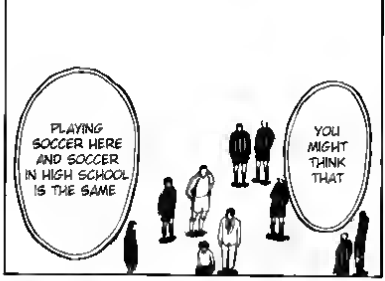
OPEL

YOU HURT HIS PRIDE CONSIDERABLY
YOU DON'T NEED A TRANSLATION FOR THAT...

ON THE OTHER HAND SAKAMOTO'S NAIVETY SHOULD'VE BEEN WIPED OUT
FOR THE LATELY STUCK UP PISTRO, IT WAS GOOD MEDICINE

17


OF COURSE, SAKAMOTO ALREADY MEETS THE QUALIFICATIONS OF WEARING NO 10

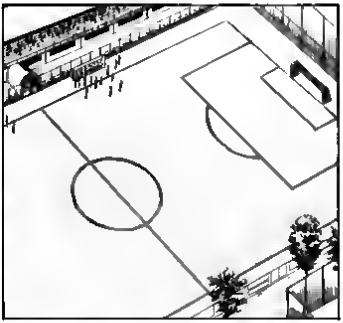

PLAYING SOCCER HERE AND SOCCER IN HIGH SCHOOL IS THE SAME
YOU MIGHT THINK THAT

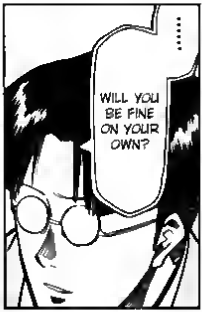
THAT WAS A BIT NAIVE.

THIS PLACE ISN'T ABOUT SHARING SOCCER.
IT'S ABOUT STRUGGLING FOR SOCCER.

BUT

SFX: CHEERING





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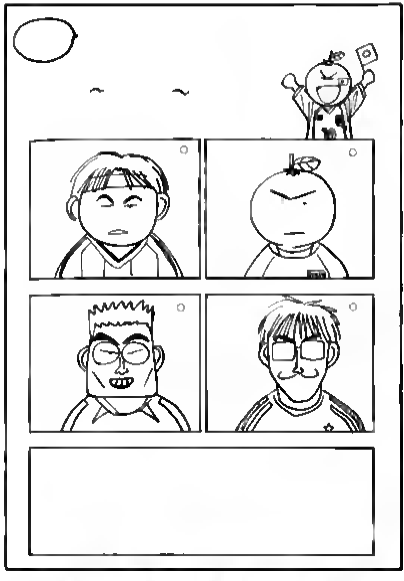
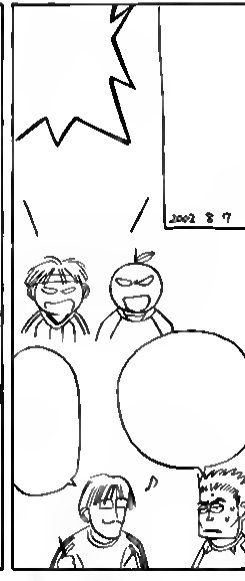
End of Volume 16

FANTASISTA

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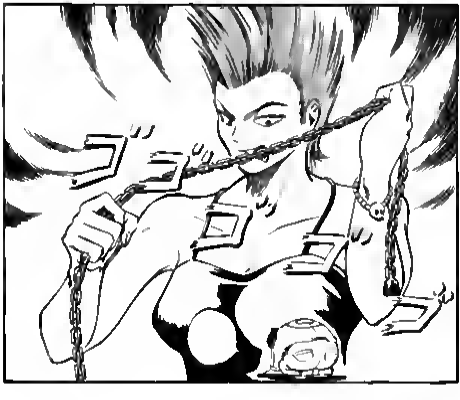

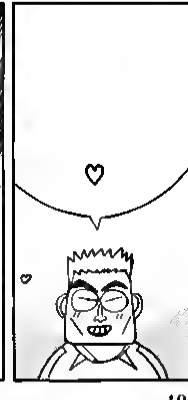

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